

SOCCER

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NSL
REPORTS

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WEEKLY

GO, Joeys!

BY LOU GAUTIER

AUSTRALIA's most competitive representative team on the international front — the under 17 Joeys — start their quest for yet another berth in the World Cup finals in New Zealand this weekend.

The Joeys have participated in all the World Cups since their inception, but this is the first time the series will cater for under 17s as in the past the competition was restricted to players under the age of 16.

Victory in the Oceania qualifiers in Napier will see the Australians through to the finals in Ecuador in July, but first they have to overcome New Zealand, Fiji and Tahiti.

Large-scale withdrawals have thrown the series into confu-

sion and may well spell the end of the Oceania route for the Joeys in future under 17 World Cups as FIFA is certain to take a dim view of such carry-ons.

Next time, the Australians may have to qualify through another continent — and it will be much harder.

The Joeys should have benefitted from their successful recent tour of South America, but New Zealand, as always, will be tough to beat, especially at

home.

They, too, have prepared well, so the stage is set for a decisive finale when the two countries meet in the last game of the tournament.

The Joeys have never let Australia down and they will start warm favourites in New Zealand.

Every Australian soccer fan wishes them well.

Go, Joeys, go!



GALAPITO, the mascot turtle of this year's under 17 World Cup to be held in Ecuador in August. A win in the Oceania qualifying tournament in Napier, New Zealand, will send Australia to the finals.

FULL
TIME
PROS

THE Australian Soccer Federation is considering full-time professional status for members of the national team.

By contracting players, like the United States Federation has done, the ASF hopes to arrest the exodus of players to European clubs.

ASF chairman John Constantine is in the process of investigating the feasibility of the scheme.



This dramatic action picture features Preston's Andrew Zinni (left) and Sydney Olympic's Alistair Edwards straining every muscle as they vie for possession at St George Stadium in Round 13. The NSL champions won 2-0.

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 13McColl
dead at 45

BY GREG BLAKE

Former Socceroo great Tommy McColl was found dead in a boarding house in St Kilda last week.

McColl's body was apparently not discovered until 10 days after his death of natural causes.

The 45-year-old former national team player, who had rarely been sighted by his former soccer comrades in recent years, is believed to have experienced personal problems and died a lonely death.

It was a sad end to the life of one of Australia's greatest players and a number of soccer luminaries paid tribute to the diminutive Scottish-born dynamo at his funeral last Thursday.

Another Socceroo great, Jim Rooney, reminisced about a player he confessed to admiring greatly during his heyday in the late 60s and early 70s.

"In the 1970 World Cup qualifying cam-

paign, Tommy was the best player at the time," Rooney told ASW.

"He had a great passion for the game and he always loved to talk about it."

McColl started his career as an apprentice for Chelsea before coming to Australia to join Adelaide Juventus.

He subsequently transferred to Melbourne Juventus where he became a key member of what is still recognised as one of Australia's best-ever club sides.

McColl played 20 times for Australia and scored 19 goals, and in full internationals he played nine times for eight goals.

Always a cheerful personality, he was the life of any party and was immensely popular with his contemporaries.

QUIT NATIONAL LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marconi	14	9	1	4	29	17	19
Melb. Croatia	14	8	3	3	31	23	19
South Melbourne	14	7	5	2	23	15	19
Preston	14	6	4	4	18	14	16
Sydney Croatia	14	4	7	3	16	15	15
Wollongong City	14	6	3	5	17	17	15
Sydney Olympic	14	4	7	3	15	15	15
Parra Melita	14	5	4	5	21	18	14
Adelaide City	14	4	6	4	13	15	14
Apia Leichhardt	14	5	3	6	18	15	13
Heidelberg Utd	14	3	6	5	15	19	12
Sunshine GC	14	4	2	8	23	32	10

St George	14	2	4	8	14	25	8
Wollongong Macedonia	14	1	5	8	9	22	7

Results

WOLLONGONG CITY 0 PRESTON 0 at Brandon Park. Crowd: 3413.
ST GEORGE 0 APIA LEICHHARDT 4 (Gomez, Bundalo, Lemezina, McFadden) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 1659.
HEIDELBERG UTD 2 (Herd, Stubbins) SUNSHINE GC 0 at Olympic Village. Crowd: 3000.
MELBOURNE CROATIA 0 SOUTH MELBOURNE 3 (Trimboli 2, Boutsianis) at Somers St. Crowd: 8500.
PARRA MELITA 3 (Brown 2, Soper) WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA 0 at Melita Stadium. Crowd: 2289.
MARCONI 2 (Grbevski o.g., M. Jones) SYDNEY CROATIA 2 (Krslovic 2) at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 6250.
ADELAIDE CITY 0 SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Bernal) at Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 4500.

CROWDS

ROUND 14: 29,611
AVERAGE PER GAME: 4,230
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 324,819
AVERAGE PER ROUND: 23,201

TOP SCORERS

TONY KRSLOVIC (Sydney Croatia)	12
DAVID SEAL (Marconi)	12
GREG BROWN (Parra Melita)	9
IVAN KELIC (Melbourne Croatia)	7
WARREN SPINK (Preston)	7
FRANCIS AWARITEFE (Melbourne Croatia)	6

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EDITOR: Keith Gilmour
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Lou Gautier
MELBOURNE EDITOR: Greg Blake
CADET: David Smedley

ADVERTISING:
Sydney: John Economos (02) 660 2033
Melbourne: Greg Blake (03) 416 1255.

VICTORIAN OFFICE: 2nd Floor, 276 Russell St, Melbourne 3000.

Telephone: (03) 663 4411
FAX: (03) 663 1204

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Croatian derby a cracker

BY ALISTAIR RUSSELL



South Melbourne's Steve Blair is first to the ball in this duel with Heidelberg's Terry Rizopoulos.

WITH the race for the top five now on in earnest, the derby match between Melbourne and Sydney Croatia at the Croatia Sports Centre stands out as the feature match of Round 15.

Despite having conceded 15 goals in seven matches away from home, the Melbourne boys, with new coach Ken Worden now settled in at the helm, have not lost in their last three away.

Worden will have defenders Mark Talajic and Andrew Marth back from suspension, while Ivan Petkovic makes his welcome return into the Sydney Croatia backline.

Sydney Croatia, unbeaten at home this season, have conceded just five goals in their seven games at the Sports Centre, and a win over their blood brothers on Sunday is a must to stay in contention for the play-offs.

If Melbourne Croatia can shackle the free-scoring Tony Krslovic, they should pick up their first-ever win at the Sports Centre and make amends for last week's huge loss to South Melbourne.

An explosive, high-scoring match looks in the offing when Sun-

shine host pedigree side Marconi this weekend.

Marconi's dismal record away from Bossley Park ended with their brilliant 3-0 win at South Melbourne a week ago, but they have still picked up just two points in their last five matches away.

Sunshine on the other hand have been dynamic at home, unbeaten in their last five at Skinner Reserve, while scoring 10 goals in their last four and conceding a miserly two.

The visitors have an outstanding record against Georgie down the years, having lost just once in 10 matches, but scoring a massive 37 goals, including the 6-1 hiding back in Round 2.

Marconi should have too much class for George Cross, but Ernie Merrick's young charges are so impressive at home that this match should be one of the best of the round.

South Melbourne, looking to avenge their first home defeat in 23 matches, host the difficult Melita on Sunday.

Melita, beaten just once in seven matches away this season, should welcome defender Andrew Callanan back from suspension.

The return from injury of clever midfielder Aytec Genc, is a mar-

vellous boost for the Eagles, who must win on Sunday to stay in touch with the top five.

Souths got back in the winner's circle with the destruction of fellow title challengers Melbourne Croatia yesterday and have lost just once in their last six matches.

Order should be restored at Middle Park this weekend, and although Melita will give them a run for their money, Souths should take the spoils.

The long awaited appearance of the travelling Abbas Saad and Alistair Edwards should be worth the admission money alone, when Sydney Olympic host Wollongong City on Sunday.

Despite concerted efforts to have the dynamic duo return from their sortie in the Malaysian League, for the first time the two stars of last season's championship-winning side will be on show against the Wolves.

Although unbeaten on their home soil this season, Sydney Olympic have been a mere shadow of the team that clinched the title from fifth place last season, with only two wins at St George Stadium.

The Wolves, however, have lost just once in their last four matches away from home and have a steely look about their play, with the additions of Tony Pezzano and David Ratcliffe.

Desperation alone should get Olympic home, with a defeat here a death knell for their finals hopes.

Preston will hope to continue their spectacular home run when they host the struggling St George this weekend.

At Connor Reserve, Preston have dropped just one point from seven matches, while conceding only four goals, one of the better

home defensive records in the league.

St George are yet to win away this season, losing their last four in a row and scoring just four goals in their last six matches.

Added to the Saints woes is the injury to young striker Matthew Bingley, who may be missing for some weeks.

With only one win in their last 12 matches, the Saints will once again struggle, with Preston pushing for a place in the finals.

A draw looks likely when the improved Heidelberg visit Apia, while finals hopefuls, Adelaide City should take the points when they visit Wollongong Macedonia.

PLAYER AWARDS

Heidelberg v Sunshine

- 3 Olver (H)
- 2 Ketsakidis (SGC)
- 1 Stubbins (H)

Melb. Croatia v SM Hellas

- 3 Trimboli (SMH)
- 2 Petersen (SMH)
- 1 Durakovic (SMH)

Wollongong C v Preston

- 3 Jolevski (P)
- 2 Pezzano (WC)
- 1 Cahut (WC)

Melita v Woll Macedonia

- 3 Nowicki (ME)
- 2 Soper (ME)
- 1 Pontidas (WM)

Syd Croatia v Marconi

- 3 Kupresak (SC)
- 2 Lowe (M)
- 1 Okon (M)

St George v Apia

- 3 Bundalo (A)
- 2 Lemezina (A)
- 1 Gomez (A)

Adelaide City v Syd Olympic

- 3 Phillips (SO)
- 2 A. Vidmar (AC)
- 1 Refenes (SO)

PLAYER POINTS

- 15: Filan (StG)
- 14: Bundalo (A), Stubbins (H) Petkovic (SC)
- 12: Okon (M)
- 11: Phillips (SO)

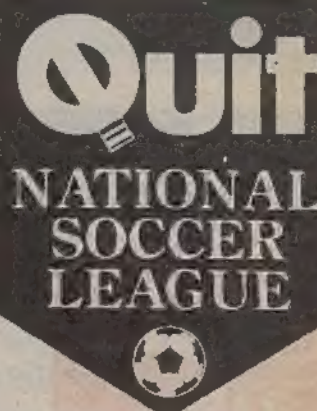
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Third win of season for perky Bergers

BY PETER KOSMOPOULOS

HEIDELBERG won in its third match of the season yesterday when it defeated an unlucky Sunshine George Cross 2-0 at Olympic Village.

Alexander was the better side in the first half although George Cross played better in the second but could not capitalise on the flurry of chances it created.

Heidelberg created the first couple of chances in the match with Terry Rizopoulos and Phil Stubbins whose shots were saved by Frank Talia.

Alexander's efforts were rewarded in the 17th minute when Phil Stubbins gave Willy Herd a great through ball and in turn he sent the ball to the back of the net with a low shot.

And George Cross came close to an equaliser in the 34th minute as a Chris Ketsakidis shot found the top of the crossbar.

The injured Terry Rizopoulos was replaced by Les Carter late in the first half.

George Cross was the better team in the second period and was unlucky not to equalise with shots coming from David Clarkson, Lorenz Kindtner and Alan Roodhouse, saved by the experienced Jeff Olver.

Ten minutes from the end a Ketsakidis header was saved brilliantly for a corner by Olver.

A minute later Peter Bordignon saved the day for the Bergers when he cleared an Andy Humble shot off the line.

Surprisingly,



Preston's George Jolevski (foreground) gets his pass away as Sunshine's Craig Foster can only look on — JOE MONTEMURRO photo.

Heidelberg increased its lead in the 84th minute with a well struck shot by Phil Stubbins.

HEIDELBERG: Olver 8, Bratten 6, Bordignon 5, McDowall 5, Cannell 5, Rizopoulos (Carter 42m 6.), Herd 7, Stubbins 7, Stevenson 4, Goutzoulis 5, Sifkas 4.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS: Talia 5, Mori 4,

Roodhouse 6, Waddell 6, Ketsakidis 7, Foster 7, Kindtner 5 (Hunter 75m), Humble 4, Hasler 6, Clarkson 6, Di Amicis 6.

SCORERS: Herd 17m and Stubbins 84m for Heidelberg.

YELLOW CARDS: Goutzoulis 29m and Sifkas 41m for Heidelberg.

REFEREE: M. Ingram 7.

CROWD: 3,000.

**AUSTRALIAN
SOCCER
WEEKLY**

(02) 660 2033

Trimmers topples Croatia

BY GREG BLAKE

SOUTH Melbourne Hellas answered all its critics who had been out in force following a loss to Marconi last week with an emphatic 3-0 win over Melbourne Croatia at Somers Street yesterday.

Hellas came to a ground where the home side had not been conquered all season long and proceeded to carve Melbourne Croatia to pieces with a devastating display.

Croatia had no answer to the midfield domination of Paul Wade, Mike Petersen and Peter Tsolakis and that trio, in turn, provided just the ammunition needed to fire Paul Trimboli to far and away his best game of the season.

Trimmers showed all his guile and uncanny skill of old to confound the Melbourne Croatia defence.

Trimboli scored twice, set up a third and might have scored three more in a scintillating display.

Melbourne Croatia supporters could be excused for their criticisms of match referee Richard Lorenc who proceeded to hand out eight yellow cards and one red card in a match which was hardly ill-tempered or spiteful.

In the end, the bookings had a telling effect on Melbourne Croatia's collapse after it lost midfielder Ivan Duzel in the 54th minute for his second bookable offence inside two minutes as he bought down Con Boutsianis and Paul Wade in quick succession.

Down to 10 men, Croatia had no answer to a South Melbourne Hellas side prepared to storm forward at every opportunity knowing Trimboli was on hand to finish off the hard work.

Melbourne Croatia looked set to extend its unbeaten run in the early stages but it took an act of courage from Trimboli to turn this match on its head.



Souths' Mike Petersen — played a dominant role in midfield against Melbourne Croatia yesterday — JOE MONTEMURRO pic.

A cross by Boutsianis fell for Wade and his rocket-like blast on goal hit Trimboli square in the midriff and sent him falling to the turf clearly winded.

But sheer courage saw the nearly crippled Trimboli scramble after the ball and with foot outstretched speared a shot passed Croatia keeper David Miller.

Miller was by no means Croatia's achilles heel as he pulled off brilliant stops from Petersen in the first half and from Trimboli and Tsolakis after the break.

But he, like the rest of his team-mates, succumbed to the blue and white pressure wave.

Hellas struck again four minutes from half time when Trimboli checked his run and laid a brilliant pass off for Boutsianis who rocketed the ball in from an acute angle to make it 2-0.

The effervescent Trimboli might well have scored thrice more in quick succession in the second half with one effort going over the crossbar, a one on one with Miller ending with

a shot centimetres wide and a third cleared off the line in the 71st minute.

Five minutes from full time Hellas wrapped up a meritorious win as Trimboli ran onto Tsolakis' neat through ball and chipped Miller brilliantly on the run from around 20 metres out.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Miller 6, Davidson 5, Donnelly 6, Selemidis 6, Hannah 5, Duzel (sent off 54m), Milosevic 5, Biskic 7, Caleta 5, Kelic 6, Awaritefe 5.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: Maclaren 6, Healy 7, Postecoglou 7 (Fernandes 91m), Durakovic 7, Blair 7, Wade 7, Michalakopoulos 6, Petersen 7, Trimboli 8, Boutsianis 7 (Wright 86m), Tsolakis 7.

SCORERS: Trimboli 17m, 86m, Boutsianis 41m for South Melbourne.

YELLOW CARDS: Davidson 3m, Donnelly 12m, Duzel 52m, Awaritefe 58m, Kelic 81m for Melbourne Croatia; Wade 7m, Tsolakis 39m, Petersen 58m for South Melbourne.

RED CARD: Duzel 54m for Melbourne Croatia.

REFEREE: R Lorenc 5.

CROWD: 8,500 (approx).

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HAVE YOUR SAY . . .

OUR man at various NSL matches in NSW, Stephen Oldridge, is there specially to collect a cross section of ideas from some important people — the members of the soccer public.

He is identifiable by his media badge, and will be glad to obtain your views on the progress of the game.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY will then print a selection of the pointers that he has obtained.

What are your ideas to advance the great game of soccer football? Tell them to Stephen Oldridge, as he moves to various grounds.

ANOTHER HIGHLY READABLE ASW FEATURE



EACH week I only have the resources to gain a few comments from supporters.

I know that many people would like to air their views, so for the next two weeks I would like you to write to me and get it off your chest, so send your letters to: Stephen Oldridge c/o Australian Soccer Weekly.

Trevor: "My view is that unless someone takes notice of columns like this, then there is no point commenting, because we are the people who count and should not be regarded as whingers."

"I've got plenty to complain about but for years we've been asking for change and nothing happened."

Natasha: "I would like to know who will be the teams in NSL next year."

"Will Canberra and Newcastle come in?"

"Will a Sydney team be dropped and how does

the relegation system work?

"Don't keep us in the dark ASF, let us know what's going on."

Darren: "There seems to be a lot of turmoil about facilities for spectators."

"That's a problem. Look at league grounds, half of them you sit on the grass but nobody cares, because it's all structured around a positive attitude and professionalism, for example ball-boys are obviously told how to act and dress."

"I mean, look at today — the ballboys standing behind the goal eating popcorn..."

"It's just not on."

"And where else would you hear a half-time announcement in a foreign language?"

"We should get together, no matter what role, religion or colour and make soccer Number 1 in this country."

COACH WANTED

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Pezzano denies Preston a win

BY LEN CHAFER

WOLLONGONG Wolves and Preston played a 0-0 draw at Brandon Park in front of a crowd of 3413 yesterday afternoon.

It was a game of missed chances at both ends with Preston playing the ball out from the back line more often than Wollongong.

In contrast, Wolves made frequent use of the long ball to pressurise the Preston back four.

Wolves almost opened the scoring in the third minute when David Skeen found himself in space near the by-line on the right.

Skeen brought the ball under control but his shot went sailing over the bar.

In the sixth minute David Green with a last minute tackle in the penalty area stopped Preston taking an early lead after Warren Spink broke past the Wolves defence.

Preston players appealed for a penalty but the referee waved the play on.

In the 15th minute Zivko Hristovski took a free kick from the right and Mike Hollifield headed the ball across the goal and then Richard Lloyd headed it against the post.

Wollongong nearly scored again in the 25th minute when Frank Bate miskicked the ball in the box after Lloyd had a shot at goal.

Phil Traianedes, the Preston keeper, came out to collect the loose ball and Miladin Kuc tried to shoot but the Preston defenders scrambled the ball away.

In the 34th minute Charlie Yankos took a 35 metre free-kick and his shot went low and hard but the Preston keeper collected the ball going down on his knees.

Wollongong pressed again in the 36th minute when Kuc picked up the ball in midfield and pushed it wide to Skeen on the left wing.

Skeen returned the ball to Kuc who crossed the ball and Bate from close range shot at goal but the ball was blocked



Sunshine's Damian Mori attempts to speed past Preston's Shaun Parton in recent NSL action — JOE MONTEMURRO photo.

on the goal line.

In the 40th minute George Jolevski, the Preston midfielder, put a great ball upfield for Warren Spink whose header sailed over the bar.

Green had the better of Spink in the first half and stopped the prolific goalscorer from adding to his tally.

In the second half it was Preston who attacked first when in the 48th minute Robert Markovac crossed a ball from the right and Spink headed on to the crossbar from only six metres out with the goalkeeper well beaten.

Trajanovski shot from close range with a powerful drive but Pezzano made a brilliant save. From the rebound Jolevski shot but Pezzano saved yet again.

Jolevski took control of the midfield and his pinpoint accuracy split the Wolves defence time and time again.

In the 75th minute Wollongong had a good chance again when Hollifield put a good ball on the left of the penalty area for Kuc who took the ball well, beat two defenders but his right foot shot went wide of the far post.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Pezzano 8, Green 7, Hollifield 6, Hristovski 5, Yankos 6, Lloyd 5 (Farmer 65 min) Cahut 7, Skeen 5, Bate 5, Brodnik 5, Kuc 6.

PRESTON: Traianedes 6, Roodhouse 5, Jolevski 8, Jackson 6, Parton 6, J Markovac 5, (Bekiaris 82

min) Spasevski 6, Trajanovski 6, Spink 6, Tasevski 5, R Markovac 5.

YELLOW CARDS: Warren Spink (Preston) 61

min, Zoran Tasevski (Preston) 85 min.

REFEREE: Gordon Dunster 5.

CROWD: 3413.

3-0 win to Melita

BY TED SIMMONS



GREG BROWN

STRIKER Greg Brown, who almost captured last season's goal scoring crown, rejoined this season's battle with a fine double in Parramatta Melita's 3-0 win over bottom placed Wollongong Macedonia at Melita Stadium.

Brown has not featured much on the score list in recent weeks but he made the most of his few opportunities against Wollongong.

He owed both goals to the skills of fellow strikers Marshall Soper and Jarek Nowicki.

After a scoreless first half Melita bombarded the Wollongong goal with Soper finally gaining the breakthrough.

A 53rd minute pass from Nowicki deep to the far post found Soper in perfect position to head the opening goal.

Seven minutes later Brown joined the scoring list when a corner from Hugo Gimenez was headed back across goal by Soper to give Brown an easy scoring header.

Melita took complete control in the final stages and it wasn't surprising when Brown was on hand for the third goal seven minutes from time.

Nowicki took the ball along the left and his cross was met by Brown inside the goal area who executed a neat side flick into the net.

Melita had by far the better of the first half, boosted by sparkling runs from Nowicki and Soper.

Nowicki, using both sides of the field, teased and tormented the Wollongong backline but failed to put away three good scoring chances.

SYDNEY Croatia striker Tony Krslovic did his Socceroo chances no harm at all with a goal in each half to give his side a valuable 2-2 draw with Marconi-Fairfield at Marconi Stadium last night and join David Seal on top of the goal scoring charts.

With national coach Eddie Thomson watching from the stands Krslovic gave Croatia a shock lead late in the first half, then saved the match with an equaliser in the last 15 minutes to set up a grandstand finish.

When Marconi hit the front early in the second period they looked capable of going on to a

comfortable win but to their credit Croatia stuck to their guns and came away with a point which in the end was fully deserved.

Not surprisingly, Marconi went into the match with an unchanged line-up but Croatia coach Tony Vrzina made three changes to his side. Central defender Velimir Kupresak came back from suspension, replacing the injured Tony Popovic, midfielder Ante Rumora came in for his first game in twelve months for the suspended Ivan Petkovic while youngster Robert Stanton was given his chance in preference to the out of form Robert Runje.

The large crowd of over 6000 fans was brought to its feet within three minutes when Marconi's powerful midfielder John Markovski got his head to a David Lowe cross but saw the ball bounce back from the bottom of the upright.

For the next half hour, however, the game never really got off the ground, with Marconi pushing forward through some neat build-ups and the whole Croatia team content to stay behind the ball concentrating on keeping everything tight.

But as so often happens in football, Croatia took a surprise lead on one of the few occasions they ventured forward in the 37th minute.

John Gibson won a corner on the left following a solid run past a hesitant Marconi defence and Lamond's kick to the far post was nodded on by Gibson for Krslovic to scramble in from close range.

With Croatia looking set to go in at half time with that valuable one goal lead David Lowe bobbed up on the left seconds from the inter-

val to put his cross to the near post forcing Croatia defender Mike Grbevski to deflect the ball past his own keeper for Marconi's equaliser.

That goal came just at the right time for Marconi as they went charging forward looking for a second straight from the restart — and got it within seven minutes.

Jean-Paul de Marigny found loads of space on the left from a deep Markovski ball and his cross to the far post was nodded back by Ian Gray for Mark Jones to half-volley past keeper Tony Franken.

Seal should have settled the game on the hour but slid his attempt wide of the post while Lamond was unlucky to see his snap shot go skimming past the post.

But Croatia kept battling away and it was that man Krslovic again who set up a pulsating finish with his 12th goal of the season after 76 minutes.

Former Socceroo Wally Savor, who came on as a second half replacement, sent a good ball over the middle of the Marconi defence which was completely misjudged and left Krslovic with plenty of time to drill his rising shot past Bobby Catlin.

MARCONI: Catlin 7, Wheatley 7, de Marigny 6, Calderan 6, Okon 7, Gray 6, Nasteovski 6 (Katholos 82m), Jones 6, Seal 6 (Corica 79m), Markovski 6, Lowe 8.

CROATIA: Franken 7, Carter 7, Grbevski 6, Zelic 7, Kupresak 6, Stanton 7, Rumora 5 (Savor 48m), Gibson 6, Ricoy 6, Lamond 6, Krslovic 8.

SCORERS: Grbevski (own goal) 45m, Jones 52m (Marconi); Krslovic 37m, 76m (Croatia).

REFEREE: J. Santa Isabel 8.

CROWD: 6,250.

SAAD SUSPENDED ANOTHER WEEK

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ABBAS Saad, Sydney Olympic's fiery striker, received an extra one match suspension for being sent off two weeks ago against Melita Eagles.

Last Thursday night at the NSL's hearing, Saad received an extra one match suspension plus a two match suspended bond.

Saad thus missed playing for Olympic against Preston and last night against Adelaide City in Adelaide.

The NSL did not fine Saad after hearing

that Sydney Olympic had already imposed a heavy cash fine on the player.

Saad was sent off in the 54th minute by referee Mr Dunster and charged with violent conduct on Melita's midfielder, Andrew Callanan.

Melita went on to win the match 1-0.

* LIVE QNSL BROADCASTS *

ASW's Greg Blake can be heard each weekend on 3AK's SUPER SOCCER SUNDAY

— CHECK YOUR RADIO GUIDE FOR DETAILS —

3AK1503 The Renaissance.

St George are humiliated

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

APIA-Leichhardt, with three second half goals, completed a 4-0 annihilation of a completely lost and rudderless St George last night at St George Stadium.

To add salt to the wounds, Saints ended up losing their captain and centre-back Andy Koczka who was shown the red card by referee Alex Spirovski in the 78th minute for chopping down midfielder Brian Ellem.

Whilst Koczka was off and the St George team in complete disarray, a red hot Apia took the liberty of nailing another two goals.

Firmly cemented in second last place just one point ahead of bottom side Wollongong Macedonia the Saints had hoped their luck would change.

But Apia's midfield architect Alex Bundalo and a highly confident marksman Tony Lemezina had different ideas.

Both blue-printed Saints' destruction.

Bundalo made it 2-0 in the 66th minute after Lemezina had made an initial break and rounded Saints goalkeeper John Filan.

Lemezina lost his balance and the ball ran loose in the goal mouth but it quickly fell back to Lemezina who, in a flash, was back up on



Apia's Alex Bundalo and Paul McFadden

his feet to knock in a fine cross to the right where the hungry Bundalo raced in to bury his 10 metre drive into the target.

With Koczka off Saints fell apart and in the 80th minute Lemezina made it 3-0 after running onto a magnificent ball sliced in by Bundalo.

Five minutes from the end, Apia rolled the scoreboard a fourth time when Jennings, and then Gomez combined brilliantly to set up striker Paul McFad-

den to drive a snapshot into the net.

Apia hit the lead 10 minutes before half time through lanky midfielder Gerry Gomez.

Former Soccerroo defender Graham Jennings raided down the left to whip in a fine cross which Gomez climbed high to nod into the left side of the net.

Then it was the turn of Apia sweeper, Milan Blagojevic, to try his luck.

His 20-metre drive was well on target but was denied dividends by

Saints goalkeeper John Filan, who tipped the ball over his crossbar.

The Saints were denied an equaliser six minutes before half time when defender Dominic Longo burst through Apia's defence but his drive from just seven metres was magnificently tipped over the top by Apia custodian Brett Hughes.

ST GEORGE: Filan 6, Milicevic 6, O'Shea 6, Koczka 6, Longo 6, Katovic 5 (Ollier 66m), Moffitt 6, Baillie 5 (Easthorpe 46m 5), Colaguri 5, Ilic 5, Harper 5.

APIA-LEICHHARDT: Hughes 6, Brown 5, Stewart 7 (Okon 79m), Blagojevic 6, Jennings 7, Bundalo 8, Ellem 7, McQuarrie 7 (Clinch 70m), Gomez 7, McFadden 7, Lemizina 8.

SCORERS: Gomez 35m, Bundalo 66m, Lemezina 80m, McFadden 85m (Apia).

YELLOW CARDS: Milicevic 16m, Katovic 25m, Moffitt 58m, Ilic 59m, Harper 81m (St. George).

RED CARD: Koczka 78m (St. George)

REFEREE: A Spirovski

CROWD: 1,659.

SOUTHERN DIVISION 6th January

Melbourne Croatia v South Melbourne Hellas (not played, match pitch too heavy). Springvale City 0 Melbourne Croatia Colts 1 (Tom Trupkovic), Heidelberg United 0 Sunshine George Cross 4 (Osman Catif 3, Wayne Attard), South Melbourne Hellas Colts 4 (Craig Ireland 2, Jason Mainie, Michael Pappis) Northcote City 4 (Jim Iliopoulos 3, Nick Hatzkazaridis), Brighton 2 (John Patterson, Arthur Kouritis) Preston Macedonia 6 (George Vasilevski 2, Nick Georgopoulos 2, Vitale Ferrante 2), Altona Gate 3 (Zlate Markovski, Henry Velkovski, Victor Mendes) Caulfield City 2 (John Vlasiotis, Con Argirion), Adelaide City 6 (Michael Brooks 4, Ross Aloisi, Joe Guastella) Geelong City 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Adelaide City	14	12	1	0	57	13	25
Sunshine GC	14	10	2	2	33	19	22
SMH	13	8	3	2	40	15	19
Preston Maki	14	8	2	4	41	20	18
Altona Gate	14	8	2	4	29	17	18
Heidelberg	14	6	3	5	23	25	15
Welo. Croatia	13	7	0	6	34	25	14
Caulfield	14	5	4	5	21	24	14
Geelong City	14	4	3	7	23	37	11
Melb. Cr Colts	14	4	2	8	19	34	10
Northcote City	14	4	2	8	20	45	10
SMH Colts	14	3	2	9	15	34	8
Brighton	14	2	1	11	10	31	5
Springvale	14	1	3	10	13	45	5

Adelaide City's first home loss

BY ALAN CLARK



Steve Refenes and Robbie Ironside celebrate Olympic's winning goal.

ADELAIDE City lost its first home match of the season on Sunday going down 1-0 to Sydney Olympic at Hindmarsh Stadium.

Soccerroo Andrew Bernal headed home the clincher in the 58th minute.

The big defender finished off a corner from the left which Robbie Ironside headed into the centre and Alistair Edwards nodded on.

City goalkeeper Robert Zabica could only parry the ball and Bernal headed home.

Adelaide City received a shock before the kick-off when classy import Milan Ivanovic was ruled out with an ear infection.

Aurelio Vidmar went to sweeper.

His younger brother, Tony, brought the first real action after four minutes when he tested Kiwi international Clint Gosling with a 20-metre free kick.

A lacklustre opening was typified by a series of haphazard passes.

A late Sergio Melta tackle on Davie Barrett brought Olympic coach Mick Hickman off the bench but referee Gary Power took no action.

Joe Mullen came closest to breaking the deadlock in the 27th minute with a 25-metre freekick that sailed past the post.

Olympic were very cautious against a makeshift City and they did not trouble

Soccerroo keeper Robert Zabica until the 40th minute.

Kevin Hagan hit the crossbar from close range and Scott Ollerenshaw unbelievably skied the rebound over the bar.

After this the game trundled on in no definite direction and the Olympic goal was one of the few decisive gestures of the game.

ADELAIDE CITY: Zabica 6, Shillabeer 6, T Vidmar 6, G Barbaro 6 (Talladira 76m), Tobin 6, Melta 5, Veart 5, Csoboth 5, Mullen 7, Maxwell 6, A Vidmar 8.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Gosling 6, Barrett 6, Hooker 7, Spyridakos 6, Bernal 7, Phillips 8, Ollerenshaw 6, Edwards 6, Hagan 7, Ironside 6, Refenes 7.

SCORERS: Bernal 58m (Sydney Olympic).

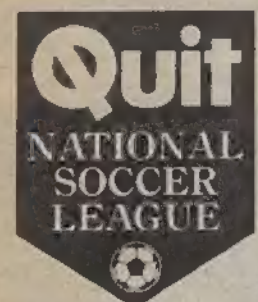
YELLOW CARDS: Hooker 51m (SO).

REFEREE: G Power 6.

CROWD: 4,500.



QUIT NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE



WEEKEND
FIXTURES



ROUND 15

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v WOLLONGONG CITY
St George Stadium 7pm

APIA LEICHHARDT v HEIDELBERG UNITED
Lambert Park 6pm

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS v MARCONI
Skinner Reserve 6pm

SYDNEY CROATIA v MELBOURNE CROATIA
Croatian Sports C 6pm

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS v MELITA EAGLES
Middle Park 6pm

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA v ADELAIDE CITY
Brandon Park 6pm

PRESTON MAKEDONIA v ST GEORGE BSC
Connor Reserve 6pm



AUSTRALIAN
AIRLINES



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Satisfactory remuneration & uniform provided. Instruction and refresher classes arranged for January 30, 1991 at 8pm.

The Concordia Club at
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Chit Chat ... Chit Chat ... Chit Chat

Tommy McCulloch is very keen to play in the Malaysian National League during the off-season if negotiations between MNL champions Kedah and Marconi are successful.



McCulloch says when and if the deal is finalised, he would be prepared to forego Socceroo selection for the South Korean President's Cup in September to play in Malaysia.

★★★

Newcastle Austral, who want to be admitted into the NSL next season, are looking to buy experienced players already in the NSL with Sydney clubs.

Preference is being given to players who were born or played in Newcastle before.

Such names include Graham Jennings (Apia), David Lowe (Marconi), Gary Phillips (Sydney Olympic), Mark Jones (Marconi), Peter Murray (Apia) and Clint Gosling (Sydney Olympic).

★★★

The Australian Soccer Federation has quickly appointed six commissioners to run soccer in Australia, headed by

John Constantine.

The seventh position will be advertised as well as for the position of executive director.

This still has not been done.

This position, in fact, is far more important than the other six.

★★★

THE NSL is boasting that summer soccer is a big success with crowds up this season.

But are they really up?

Two Sydney clubs always balloon their crowd figures and the same often happens in Melbourne.

Why? Simple: they are most afraid of the Bradley Report which will cut back the number of clubs next season in the NSL.

★★★

Tony Krslovic has kept a cool head despite his goalscoring exploits for the past two NSL seasons. The recently transferred Sydney Croatia striker says a player is only as good as his last game, but he hopes to graduate to the senior Soccerroos this year after starring for the Olympic team last year.

★★★

Socceroo midfielder Mike Petersen will put the national team before Asian offers. He says he is prepared to forego lures to play in the lucrative Malaysian National League in order to represent Australia this year and



Soccerroo Frank Farina with girlfriend Julie. Frank has recovered from surgery and is ready to go with FC Brugge later this month.

also compete in his third World Cup qualifying campaign. The 25-year-old South Melbourne playmaker has been one of Hellas' key players since joining them two years ago.

★★★

John Kosmina has replaced John Bell as anchorman for ABC-TV's NSL 'Big Match' programme. His previous role in the show was minor as he had to be content with 'Kosie's Corner.' Now he faces the cameras live. Good luck!

★★★

Frank Farina is training well after his recent cartilage operation and should be fit to resume playing when the Belgian season resumes after the winter break on January 12/13.

★★★

Heidelberg have put midfielder Les Carter on transfer — for \$7,000 — at the former Sunshine George Cross man's request.

★★★

The ABC will no longer use Heidelberg's Olympic Village ground for match-of-the-day telecasts because of poor overall facilities. Skinner Reserve, Brandon Park

and Lambert Park may also get the chop as main match venues unless they improve.

★★★

SUNSHINE Council will decide on George Cross' bid for a 20-year lease of Skinner Reserve on February 5.

Georgie overlooked the Council's shock motion to charge them \$40,000 a year for a lease and presented Council with their own submission on the ground.

Club president Terry Muscat warned councillors Sunshine may be dropped from the NSL unless Skinner Reserve meets Bradley Report criteria.

★★★

Manfred Schaefer says he will persevere with Gerry Gomez as a striker for APIA as long as Rod Brown is not back in the first team. Gomez, the father of a new baby girl, Jade, says he would much rather play in the midfield but is prepared to "sacrifice" himself in attack if needed.

★★★

Frank Arok, the former Australian World Cup coach, is about to write a book about his experiences while holding the national position.

Leading soccer wri-

ters have been invited to help compile the book with him.

★★★

SBS-TV's popular World Soccer programme, now in summer recess, resumes on Saturday, January 26 at 5.30pm. The main match will be the Euro-92 qualifier between Holland and Greece.

★★★

NO-one knows Austral Park better than team manager come groundsman Jimmy James. He is so familiar with every blade of grass that he has begun to give them individual names.

Some 20,000 sq metres of grass has been laid on the spectator area which has had to be watered daily during the hot spell of weather, in addition to the playing field.

Jim has five hoses, each 100 metres long, which he moves three times per day, six days per week. That is 5 x 100 x 3 x 6 = 9000 metres or nine kilometres per week.

His efforts have been rewarded as Australs will have one of the best facilities in the State League come kick-off time in April 1991.

★★★

The position of promotions manager for the Australian Soccer Federation has attracted applications from over 70 people.

Five of them are well-known soccer personalities but four of this quintet have NO

experience or knowledge in promotions at all.

The one that did have experience withdrew his name from the applications two weeks ago.

★★★

Sydney Olympic coaching clinics

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC, in conjunction with their sponsors, Crisco, will be holding special Soccer clinics during the school holidays at Page-wood.

Stefan Kamasz, Sydney Olympic's general manager, told ASW there is a definite need for clinics for young players at an affordable price to the parents.

"We will start the 'Crisco Coaching Clinics' next Monday morning, January 14th, at Jellicoe Park, which is situated on Park Parade, which runs off Bunnerong Road at Page-wood," he said.

"The daily sessions will be held between 9.30am and 12.30pm.

"Head of the coaching panel will be Sydney Olympic's midfielder, Gary Phillips.

"The instructors will include many of the Sydney Olympic NSL playing staff — Andrew Bernal, Robbie Iro-

inside, Robbie Hooker, Davie Barrett, Alistair Edwards, Abbas Saad, Georgie Sorras and Scott Ollerenshaw.

"But each child seeking to attend our clinics must book in first.

"This can be done by telephoning the Sydney Olympic office during business hours on 360 9206.

"Only a limited number of students will be accepted.

"Each student will be there to learn correct basic skills and each will receive a free Crisco T-Shirt.

"The total package will cost only \$90," Mr Kamasz said.

Sydney Olympic will select one lucky child at these clinics who will be a special guest at Olympic's home game against South Melbourne Hellas on February 3.

The winner will meet the players from both teams at the St George Stadium and receive VIP treatment at the match.



MIKE PETERSEN: places country before tempting offers from Asian clubs.



ABBAS SAAD: will help coach children at Sydney Olympic clinics.

SOCCER POOLS



THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST

WEEK 285
SAT. 12th JANUARY, 1991

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	CHELSEA	Q.P.R.	1
	LUTON	SOUTHAMPTON	2
	MAN. UNITED	SUNDERLAND	3
	NORWICH	LEEDS	4
	NOTT'M. FOREST	COVENTRY	5
	SHEFF. UNITED	CRYSTAL P.	6
	WIMBLEDON	DERBY	7
	BARNLEY	MILLWALL	8
	BRISTOL C.	SWINDON	9
	CHARLTON	BRISTOL R.	10
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	HULL	SHEFF. WED.	11
	IPSWICH	WEST BROM.	12
	LEICESTER	PORT VALE	13
	MIDDLESBRO	PLYMOUTH	14
	NEWCASTLE	BLACKBURN	15
	OXFORD UNITED	NOTTS. COUNTY	16
	PORTSMOUTH	OLDHAM	17
	WATFORD	WEST HAM	18
	WOLVES	BRIGHTON	19
	BRADFORD C.	BOLTON	20
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	BRENTFORD	MANSFIELD	21
	BURY	BOURNEMOUTH	22
	CAMBRIDGE U.	FULHAM	23
	CREWE	SOUTHEND	24
	EXETER	CHESTER	25
	HUDDERSFIELD	SWANSEA	26
	LEYTON O.	BIRMINGHAM	27
	PRESTON	READING	28
	SHREWSBURY	ROTHERHAM	29
	STOKE	TRANMERE	30
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	WIGAN A.	GRIMSBY	31
	BURNLEY	DARLINGTON	32
	CARDIFF	HARTLEPOOL	33
	CARLISLE	PETERBORO	34
	CHESTERFIELD	SCARBORO	35
	HALIFAX	LINCOLN	36
	ROCHDALE	BLACKPOOL	37
	SCUNTHORPE	ALDERSHOT	38
RESERVE MATCHES	WALSALL	STOCKPORT	39
	WREXHAM	DONCASTER	40
	YORK	HEREFORD	41
	MOSSLEY	GAINSBORO	42
	S. LIVERPOOL	MATLOCK	43
	SOUTHPORT	SHEDSHED	44
	STALYBRIDGE	BUXTON	45
	ABERDEEN	HIBERNIAN	46
	HEARTS	ST. MIRREN	47
	MOTHERWELL	CELTIC	48
SCOT. PREM. DIV.	RANGERS	DUNFERMLINE	49
	ST. JOHNSTONE	DUNDEE U.	50
	BRECHIN	AIRDRIE	51
	DUNDEE	CLYDEBANK	52
	FORFAR	CLYDE	53
	KILMARNOCK	HAMILTON	54
	MEADOWBANK	AYR	55

Get your Pools in!

It takes only six numbers to win.

MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 284
SAT. 5th JANUARY, 1991

F.A. CUP 3RD ROUND	ARSENAL	SUNDERLAND	1	2-1
	ASTON VILLA	WIMBLEDON	2	1-1
	BARNLEY	LEEDS	3	1-1*
	BLACKBURN	LIVERPOOL	4	1-1*
	BRIGHTON	SCUNTHORPE	5	3-2
	CHARLTON	EVERTON	6	1-2
	COVENTRY	WIGAN A.	7	1-1*
	HULL	NOTTS. C.	8	2-5
	MIDDLESBRO	PLYMOUTH	9	0-0
	MILLWALL	LEICESTER	10	2-1
ENG. DIV. 4	NEWCASTLE	DERBY	11	2-0
	NORWICH	BRISTOL C.	12	2-1
	SHEFF. UNITED	LUTON	13	1-3
	SOUTHAMPTON	IPSWICH	14	3-2
	GRIMSBY	BURY	15	0-1
	DARLINGTON	CARLISLE	16	3-1
	HEREFORD	ROCHDALE	17	2-0
	LINCOLN	WALSALL	18	2-1
	BOSTON UNITED	MACCLESFIELD	19	1-1*
	GATESHEAD	CHELTHAM	20	3-3*
G.M. VULVALL CONF. LEAGUE	KETTERING	KIDMINSTER	21	4-1
	MERTHYR T.	RUNCORN	22	0-0
	NORTHWICH	FISHER ATH.	23	0-0
	WELLING UTD.	YEOVIL	24	0-3
	BISHOP AUK.	SOUTHPORT	25	3-4
	FRICKLEY A.	MOSSLEY	26	2-3
	GAINSBORO	MARINE	27	0-2
	HYDE	MORECAMBE	28	3-1
	MATLOCK	DROYLSDEN	29	0-1
	SHEPHEDE	WITTON A.	30	0-2
H.F.S. LOANS LG. PREM. DIV.	CRAWLEY	DORCHESTER	31	0-0
	GLOUCESTER	CHELMSFORD	32	2-0
	GRAVESEND	WEALDSTONE	33	1-1*
	HALESOWEN	RUSHDEN	34	2-0
	MOOR GREEN	DARTFORD	35	3-1
	RUGBY	DOVER	36	2-0
	WEYMOUTH	BROMSGROVE	37	1-1*
	AYLESBURY	ENFIELD	38	1-0

THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 31/12/90 — WEEK 283

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED										NO. OF WEEKS SINCE EACH NUMBER OCCURRED									
1	32	2	36	3	42	4	21	5	35	6	51	7	37	8	54	9	2	2	15
10	48	10	60	11	57	12	62	13	50	14	57	15	59	16	51	17	18	19	20
17	58	18	49	19	40	20	57	21	55	22	57	23	56	24	54	25	52	26	56
25	52	26	58	27	56	28	68	29	68	30	78	31	59	32	57	33	59	34	71
33	59	34	71	35	63	36	74	37	57	38	60	39		40		41	34	35	36

Results History is from Week 38, the start of Six from 38 Pools

RESULTS OF WEEK 284 SAT 5 JANUARY, 1991

Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order):
4, 7, 19, 20, 33, 37.
Supplementary Number: 3.

English Football Association (FA) Cup third round

Aldershot	0	West Ham	0
(played at West Ham)			
Arsenal	2	Sunderland	1
Aston Villa	1	Wimbledon	1
Barnet	0	Portsmouth	5
Blackburn	1	Liverpool	1
Blackpool	0	Tottenham	1
Bolton	1	Barrow	0
Brighton	3	Scunthorpe	2
Bristol Rovers	0	Crewe	2
Charlton	1	Everton	2
Chelsea	1	Oxford	2
Chester	2	Bournemouth	3
Coventry	1	Milton	1
Hull	2	Notts. County	5
Leyton Orient	1	Swindon	1
Mansfield	0	Sheffield Wednesday	2
Middlesbrough	0	Plymouth	2
Millwall	2	Leicester	1
Newcastle	2	Derby	1
Norwich	2	Bristol City	1
Oldham	3	Brentford	1
Port Vale	2	Peterborough	1
Sheffield United	1	Luton	3
Shrewsbury	4	Watford	1
Southampton	3	Ipswich	2
Swansea	0	Rotherham	0
West Bromwich	2	Woking	4
Wolverhampton	0	Canbridge	1
Playing Sunday:			
Barnsley	v	Leeds	
Burnley	v	Manchester City	
Crystal Palace	v	Nottingham Forest	
Playing Monday:			
Manchester United	v	Queen's Park Rangers	
English division three			
Birmingham	1	Bradford	1
Grimsby	0	Bury	1
Tranmere	2	Huddersfield	0
English division four			
Darlington	3	Carlisle	1
Lincoln	2	Walsall	2
Scarborough	2	York	2
Postponed: Hereford v Rochdale, Maidstone v Halifax.			



English division three

Southend	22	14	4	4	39	29	46
Grimsby	23	13	4	6	37	20	43
Brentford	22	10	8	4	32	23	38
Bolton	22	11	5	6	32	26	38
Cambridge	22	10	7	5	38	28	37
Tranmere	22	10	6	7	37	27	36
Stoke	22	10	6	6	31	24	36
Bury	22	10	6	6	35	29	36
Leyton Orient	21	11	2	8	28	26	35
Bradford	23	9	6	8	28	27	33
Swansea	22	9	5	8	31	28	32
Reading	21	9	4	8	32	30	31
Huddersfield	22	9	4	9	26	28	31
Birmingham	23	7	10	6	24	27	31
Bournemouth	22	7	9	6	26	28	30
Exeter	22	7	6	9	27	26	27
Wigan	22	8	3	11	31	35	27
Preston	22	6	7	9	25	33	25
Chesham	21	6	4	11	21	27	22
Fulham	22	4	8	10	23	30	20
Crewe	22	4	7	11	33	42	19
Shrewsbury	21	4	6	11	33	41	18
Mansfield	22	4	6	12	21	32	18
Rotherham	22	3	5	14	22	46	14

English division four

Darlington	22	11	7	4	36	19	40
Doncaster	22	11	6	5	33	18	39
Torquay	21	10	8	3	29	19	38
Stockport	22	9	10	3	32	18	37
Northampton	21	10	7	4	29	23	37
Burnley	21	10	5	6	36	27	35
Peterborough	22	8	9	5	24	23	33
Hartlepool	20	10	3	7	25	26	33
Rochdale	21	8	7	6	29	24	31
Gillingham	22	7	9	6	29	26	30
Walsall	22	7	9	6	28	29	30
Scarborough	24	7	9	8	28	33	30
Cardiff	22	7	8	7	22	29	29
Hereford	22	6	10	6	29	23	28
Scunthorpe	21	7	7	7	24	26	28
Blackpool	22	7	6	9	32	27	27
Maidstone	22	8	3	11	36	33	27
Carlisle	23	7	5	11	23	36	26
Aldershot	21	5	8	8	35	44	23
York	21	4	9	8	22	24	21
Wrexham	23	5	5	13	25	39	20
Lincoln	21	4	8	4	18	34	20
Chesham	21	3	8	10	19	29	17
Halifax	21	4	4	13	22	36	16

Scottish division one

Falkirk	22	13	5	4	46	22	31
Dundee	23	12	5	6	36	23	29
Hamilton	23	11	7	5	28	19	29
Airdrieonians	22	11	6	5	44	30	28
Raith	22	8	9	5	33	29	25
Parkthorn	20	7	9	4	30	28	23
Kilmarnock	22	9	5	8	34	24	23

Meadowbank	21	6	9	6	32	29	21
Clydebank	22	8	5	9	37	40	21
Morton	22	8	4	10	30	34	20
Ayr	22	6	7	9	27	34	19
Forfar	21	5	7	11	27	38	13
Brechin	21	4	4	13	25	49	12
Clyde	19	2	4	13	18	38	8

Scottish division two

Stirling	20	10	8	2	33	14	28
Queen's Park	21	11	4	6	26	18	26
Berwick	20	11	3	6	30	27	25
East Fife	18	8	6	4	29	21	22
Stenhousemuir	19	8	6	5	34	28	22
Cowdenbeath	19	9	2	8	32	30	20
Stranraer	20	9	2	9	31	32	20
Albion	21	7	5	9	26	34	19
Montrose	20	8	2	10	25	21	18
Dumbarton	19	6	7	7	25	28	18
Alloa	18	7	3	8	25	20	17
Arbroath	20	5	5	10	25	28	15
Queen of the South	20	4	5	11	18	32	13
East Stirling	19	4	3	12	15	41	11

Scottish premier division

first and second divisions			
Scottish division one			
Brechin	1	Meadowbank	
Falkirk	1	Dundee	
Hamilton	2	Glycembank	
Kilmarnock	2	Partick	
Raith	1	Airdrieonians	

ASW's Team of the Mid-season

BY LOU GAUTIER

AS the Quit National League embarks on its second round of matches, one satisfying feature of the season to date, besides the close race for the Top Five, has been the outstanding form of many players.



ALAN DAVIDSON

The exodus of Australian talent to Europe may be continuing unabated, but it is pleasing to note that so many locally-based players are putting up quite a show.

The fact that crowds are up this season demonstrates that the fans are more than happy to turn out to watch the considerable talent still based in Australia.

So, at the half-way mark of the NSL, who were the best players?

Player choices are always highly subjective as one man's (or woman's) meat can often be the other's poison, and soccer players are no exception.

This is the mid-season NSL team I have chosen with some trepidation:

I picked John Filan in goal because the

youngster, winner of ASW's Player of the Year award last season and again featuring prominently in this year's mid-season standings, has been in commanding form.

On shudders at the faltering St George team's fate without his heroics week in week out.

Paul Okon has stood out at sweeper.

Despite his young age, the Marconi defender has class stamped all over him and he is mature beyond his years.

My two stoppers — Andrew Callanan and Alex Tobin — have hardly put a foot wrong all season.

Callanan has been a key player in the stingy Melita defence and is getting better all the time.

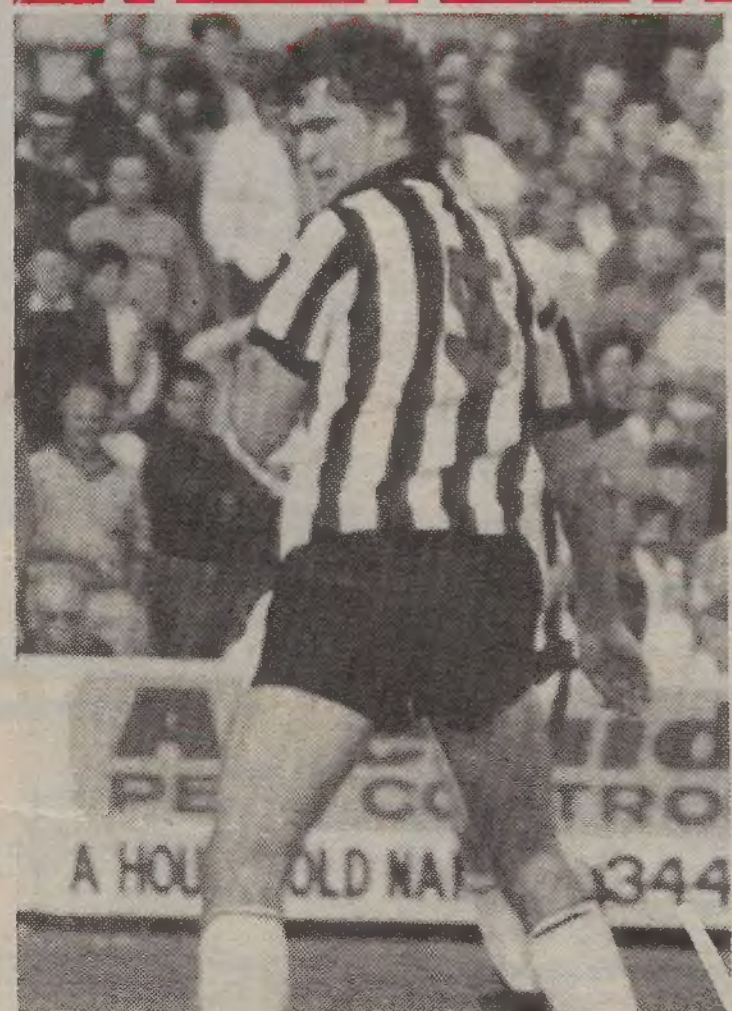
Tobin, for his part, is playing the best football of his career in a somewhat disappointing Adelaide City side which has not aged gracefully.

In my five-man midfield, the engine room of any team, I have selected two defence-oriented players, two who relish attack and a steady "general" in the middle of that vital



PAUL OKON: mature beyond his years.

	JOHN FILAN (St George)	
ANDREW CALLANAN (Melita)	PAUL OKON (Marconi)	ALEX TOBIN (Adelaide City)
ALAN DAVIDSON (Melbourne Croatia)	MIKE PETERSEN (South Melb Hellas)	PAUL DONNELLY (Melb Croatia)
ROBBIE IRONSIDE (Sydney Olympic)		HUGO GIMENEZ (Melita)
WARREN SPINK (Preston)		FRANCIS AWARITEFE (Melbourne Croatia)



ALEX TOBIN: best football of his career.

line.

The central position goes to South Melbourne's Mike Petersen, whose tremendous work rate often goes unnoticed in his team.

Petersen, who has never played better, could also play a similarly pivotal role for the Socceroos if given the chance.

The Melbourne Croatia pair of Alan Davidson and Paul Donnelly are my choices as defensive midfielders.

"Davo", like good wine gets better with age. Mind you he is still under 30, but has been playing like a veteran for years.

Here's hoping he gets back into the Socceroo line-up this year, even if he is not the captain.

Donnelly, his partner in crime at Melbourne Croatia, does not get the credit he deserves although this duo has been responsible in a big way for their team's splendid start to the NSL season.

Robbie Ironside and Hugo Gimenez get my nod as the attacking midfielders.

Olympic's Ironside remains the mainstay of his team.

He seldom turns in a poor game and remains the NSL champions' most consistent performer.

Gimenez symbolises Melita Eagles' silky skills and brings a much appreciated touch of South American flair to the local scene.

Up front, I have gone for Warren Spink and Francis Awaritefe.

Spink has finally shaken off the injuries that plagued him for almost 18 months and is again one of the country's most feared goal scorers and Preston's best hope of making the play-offs.

I have gone for the flamboyant Francis Awaritefe rather than David Seal because Melbourne Croatia's exciting striker is an entertainer par excellence as well as no mean a scorer of goals — an irresistible combination.

Australia's seven FIFA referees

THE FIFA list of international referees for 1991 has been released to the Australian Soccer Referees' Federation.

Australia has gained one additional badge-holder with the inclusion of John McConnell from NSW.

This is McConnell's first appointment to the seven-member panel.

All six of last year's badge-holders have been reappointed, including Richard Lorenc and Gary Power from NSW, Chris Bambridge and Dennis Voutsinas from Victoria, Bill Monteverde from Queensland and Barry Harwood from Western Australia.

Two years ago FIFA changed the rules governing appointment to its international list.

Until the change, each nation was entitled to seven badge-holders who were appointed 'for life'.

The FIFA retiring age is 50.

Under the new rules, each country may nominate up to 10 officials.

Each official is now appointed for one-year at a time.

Krncevic seeks agent status

BY PAUL KLARIC of AAP



Eddie Krncevic in action against Israel in the April 1989 World Cup qualifier — his last appearance for the Socceroos.

FORMER Socceroo and Marconi striker Eddie Krncevic has met with the Australian Soccer Federation with an aim to be Australia's sole player agent abroad.

Krncevic, 30, met with Australian Soccer Federation president John Constantine and said initial discussion had been "very positive".

Krncevic's European manager will fly to Australia for further talks with the hope of signing an official agreement.

At a time when rumours of European talent scouts combing the NSL during the Northern winter break are rife, Krncevic said employing his services would better protect Australian players and the local game as well.

"A lot of Australian players going overseas get ripped off, and I was one of them," he said.

"If I were the only person the clubs could deal through when enquiring about Australian players I could make sure the same thing did not happen to them as did to me."

"There is a lot of good talent here and

overseas clubs will be sure to continue their growing interest in local players."

Krncevic was Australia's first player to play on the European continent, joining Dinamo Zagreb in 1982 and having since played in Germany, Belgium and France.

Recently he signed a three-year contract with Belgian First Division club FC Liege, making him Australia's most experienced player abroad.

Krncevic was in Australia for a one-week holiday and after spending New Year's Eve with his family, departed for Belgium where the season recommences on January 12.

Krncevic said Australian players needed advice on insurance, accommodation, contracts and payments.

"My services would not just be in relation to the signing of players, I would be there to ensure everything ran smoothly while they were playing in Europe," he said.

Krncevic said after his retirement as a player he would like to spend nine months of the year in Zagreb to oversee the running of his 2,000-person capacity nightclub and three months in Australia renewing old acquaintances.

[Big Eddie is looking forward to March's European Cup-Winners' Cup quarter-final tie between his FC Liege and Juventus of Italy. "It may well be the highlight of my European career," he said. — Editor]

No South America, please, we're British

SHOULD Australian soccer take on a South American flavour?

I do not think so. In this one speaks contrary to ASW's South American journalist Mario Etchart and John Warren, both good friends of mine.

Also one seems to be in conflict with another good friend, Les Scheinflug, plus his colleagues, national coach Eddie Thomson and Raul Blanco of Melita.

In an interview with Mario Etchart, Les recommended we make closer ties with South America, an opinion apparently shared by Eddie and Raul, all just back from Chile with our under 17 Joeys.

Now, I do not mind us importing or copying the technical skill of the South Americans — or the Koreans, or the Yugoslavs, or the black players in England, South Africa or Cameroon, or emulating the technical ability of the Arab nations.

All of these countries and others could be a good model for us to aspire in the pursuit of skill with the ball.

games, especially so in Australia.

Possession soccer does not get results.

Current world soccer statistics show that very rarely does a team score a goal following a build-up of more than five passes — because opposing teams by then will have eight to 11 players in defence.

"... it is so hot and humid in Chile that you just cannot run all over the place..." Les Scheinflug quote.

That is the reason possession soccer is used in Chile.

Now if our National League clubs were playing at 2.30pm in the afternoon in the middle of summer there might be a case for possession soccer here.

But we play in the cool of the night and our lads do run all over the place. They are supposed to!

There is a place in soccer for running.

Players in the NSL cover more than eight kilometres in a game,

goals in professional games come from headers.

Chileans are a small race, as are many of the South Americans.

Australians are tall and excel in the air.

Aerial duels are part of the power, excitement and skill of a good game of soccer.

Listen to the Sydney Olympic following when Steve Refenes flies down his wing and whacks over a speeding cross to the far post and Robbie Ironside, Kevin Hagan or Alistair Edwards gets on the end of it.

Nothing gets them going more as they rise to their feet in their thousands, yelling and punching the air...

"Olympic!" "Olympic!" "Olympic!"

I was there the other night when it happened at St George Stadium — against Preston.

It made me feel just as excited and thrilled as they were to see such dynamic and courage-



BY MIKE JOHNSON

souls.

It is why people will travel distances and pay substantial money to experience uplifting and thrilling spectacle.

The top Uruguayan team Penarol was cited by Les Scheinflug for its will to win, and its capacity to shut the game down once it was leading.

Having watched numerous games on SBS Television from South America, one found that 'will to win' was often translated into kicking, tripping, shirt-pulling, professional fouling, delay tactics, feigning injury and occasionally spitting.



Steve Refenes (right) in action against Preston — his speedy forays were a thrill.

However, there were in my opinion, misconceptions about the value of South American football in Mario's interview with Les Scheinflug.

Les is quoted as saying: "For the first time the lads (national under 17s) really realised that soccer can be played like chess, keeping possession, holding the ball, knocking the ball around until an opening is created."

Now chess is good to play but a bore to watch.

Possession soccer also is a bore to many people, including me, especially where much of it is done in slow motion at the back.

Possession soccer drives people away from

walking, jogging, striding and sprinting — just as do professional soccer players in most countries of the world.

Now that is the equivalent of a middle distance runner in the Olympics, except that much of the running in good soccer is explosive, power runs over distances of five metres to 50 metres, not to mention the tackling, jumping, running sideways, backwards and running with the ball.

Les went on to say that the Chilean professional teams were very composed, never giving the ball away and kept the ball on the ground.

Recent soccer facts show that 25% of all

ous action.

There was nothing composed about the racing Refenes, as he fired over his cross, whistling to the head of the mighty Ironside who risked aerial collision, maybe injury, in his attempt to power that flying ball into the net.

It gave me the same feelings as it did to the emotional Olympic supporters around me.

It gave me the same feelings that I have just felt at this moment while writing this piece and listening to a tape of the great tenor voices of Carrera, Domingo and Pavarotti singing together in concert.

Great human endeavour stirs our emotions, even our very

One nation Australian soccer could emulate is Germany.

The Germans have reasonable technical skill, splendid tactical know-how, excellent fitness and immense competitiveness and will to win.

Former Australian national coach Rudi Gutendorf comes from Germany.

He told me his country likes dynamic soccer players.

He said he saw them in Australia. So do I.

If we desire to play soccer in the manly, sporting way the game is supposed to be played our best example would be Britain.

ASF Board of Commissioners

Alan Vessey ideal choice as 7th man

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

THE Australian Soccer Federation has been relatively quick to appoint the new commissioners who will guide Australian soccer through the turbulent waters of domestic and world football.

The Bradley Report strongly recommended that a new streamlined national administration body in the form of a Board Of Commissioners be appointed.

So far six commissioners have been selected, with John Constantine heading the group.

But the Bradley Report recommended seven commissioners.

Who's getting that seventh spot?

More importantly still, why hasn't he (or she) been selected yet?

The seventh commissioner's spot, it has been decided, will go to the as yet not appointed Executive Director of the Australian Soccer Federation.

Rumours spinning around the traps suggest that this newly created position will be extensively advertised to attract the best man for the job.

Why weren't the other six spots advertised?

The seventh berth on the commissioners' board is the most important to fill as that person will be the only one employed full-time to deal with the day-to-day matters of Australian soccer.

That person will be the one who has to ensure that what the Board Of Commissioners decides has to be first implemented, then enforced.

In my opinion, the obvious man for the job is already under the commissioners' very noses.



JOHN CONSTANTINE

Alan Vessey, the current general secretary of the ASF, should automatically get the post.



ALAN VESSEY: has all the credentials for an ASF Board of Commissioners post.

Vessey has a sound track record, spanning over more than 15 years.

He became secretary of the Queensland Soccer Federation back in 1975 and set about knocking Queensland soccer into shape.

With an extensive business background, Alan Vessey possesses the acumen necessary for the top job.

Clubs I've spoken to in Brisbane as well as on the Gold Coast couldn't speak too highly of him.

He is all action, with little talk.

The Queensland clubs were all saddened when their state lost this top operator to Sydney where he was installed in 1988 as the new general manager of the ASF in the Ian Brusasco regime.

Within months, Vessey had made great inroads, (although largely unnoticed and certainly unrecognised), with the Australian Government and the Australian Sports Commission.

Over the years, Vessey gained an extensive knowledge of the Australian sports scene and the massive problems of soccer administration.

If there is a problem or a question to be answered, one gets immediate action or satisfaction by a simple telephone call to Vessey.

Vessey is direct and delivers.

With Vessey's obvious qualifications, why the delay in appointing the seventh commissioner?

Vessey is the man.

Savor comeback

BY TED SIMMONS

FORMER Socceroo fullback Wally Savor has started a dramatic comeback with a return to the national team as his short-term objective.

Savor has played two matches with the Sydney Croatia Youth League team after an injury last season forced him to undergo a total knee reconstruction.

"I'm just biding my time and hope to be back in Croatia firsts within the next couple of weeks," he said.

The 31-year-old Savor, who formed a solid defensive partnership with Apia fullback

Graham Jennings in the Socceroos, received his injury at Lambert Park against Apia last February.

"It's nine months since the operation and I'm pretty pleased with my level of fitness," he said.

"Within another two weeks I should be in a position to breathe down someone's neck if they don't perform."

"I think I've still got a lot to offer."

Knee injuries take their toll

BY GREG BLAKE

BY the end of the sixth round last season Marconi's Zlatko Nastevski, Sunshine's Ossie Latif and Apia's Rod Brown had netted a tidy 14 goals between them.

By Round 10 of the first NSL summer season that total had reached 24 and at the end of Round 13 the talented trio had totalled 26 all-up.

That was where the goalscoring party ended.

None of the three played again in 1989/90.

All three were struck down by probably the most feared of footballing injuries, the knee injury.

For all three it meant anything up to a year or more out of football.

Last season was a horrific one for injuries in the NSL with some 25 seasoned players missing considerable chunks of the campaign through injury.

But Latif, cruelly struck down in a training mishap after five goals in the opening six rounds, Nastevski, a key to Marconi's premiership hopes who had bagged 11 goals in 10 rounds before going down hurt for the Soccerroos against Moscow Torpedo in Sydney, and Brown, with 10 goals in 13 games, hit the headlines within two months of each other.

relegation struggle.

Of all the 'regulation' footballing injuries of any code the knee injury can be the most devastating.

Anterior cruciate ligament damage which requires a knee reconstruction could once put a player out of action for good and all time.

These days it still means a lengthy spell out of action.

Nastevski has only recently started a return to first team action, as has Brown, whilst Latif still hasn't reappeared at senior NSL level.

According to experienced Melbourne sports physiotherapist Bruce Connor the knee is one of the most vulnerable parts of a footballer's body.

Connor, who has treated more sports injuries than he cares to recall over the years in private practice, has treated a number of knee 'victims' in recent times.

As physio for the Essendon AFL (Aussie rules) club, he has been involved in the treatment of such well-known players as Paul Salmon, Mark Thompson, Tim Watson and Neil Daniher.

"An anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury is significant in that its rupture and inevitable reconstruction virtually means a minimum of 12 months out of action," Connor told ASW.

why it takes a player so long to recover from reconstruction surgery.

According to one of Melbourne's most experienced sports physiotherapists, this is the story of why a knee injury is the most dreaded footballing injury:

The ACL is essentially a cordlike ligament running inside the knee joint completely independent of any other structures.

As with other joint ligaments it serves to stabilise the joint, its position being to limit excessive frontwards glide of the shinbone (tibia) and, more importantly, rotation or twisting of the same bone.

It stabilises the knee joint during sudden changes of direction and, if ruptured, that direction change stability is lost and the player is unable to perform 'cutting' activities without the sensation of the knee 'giving way'.

Most other joint ligaments are in intimate contact with surrounding structures whilst the ACL cord is not and once the ruptured ends are separated no amount of immobilisation will allow them to re-attach.

Thus the need for surgery.

At present the preferred technique is the patella tendon graft.

This involves a strip of bone and tendon being peeled off the front of the kneecap down to its attachment at the top of the tibia, then being threaded back through the joint and out through a hole drilled in the outside of the femur, where it is secured.

In time the bone from

the front of the patella grafts into the hole and the remaining patella tendon replicates the function of the ACL.

In time terms the problem with the procedure is that the graft initially loses strength due to the cutting of its blood supply with its removal from the patella and it is not until the graft 'takes' and the blood supply is established that the strength is regained.

This takes upwards of 12 months and the rehab. program is limited by what forces the graft can withstand as it strengthens.

The rehab. program basically involves the following:

WEEKS 1 TO 6

The knee is gradually mobilised, aiming to achieve movement from full strengthening to 90 degree bend. A painful period as the acute post-operative symptoms must be endured. During this time a limited range of motion brace is worn constantly.

WEEKS 6 TO 12

Bike riding and swimming are introduced and exercises, particularly for the hamstrings, are programmed. Once full controlled locking of the knee is attained, the brace is no longer necessary.

WEEKS 12 TO 20

This period allows only for knee-kicking along with swimming and jog/walking as range of movement and knee swelling allows.

WEEKS 20 TO 36

Exercises progress to the commencement of solo sports such as squash or basketball, on court by yourself.

WEEK 36 TO 52

A full range of strengthening programmes for all muscle groups are instituted and functional twisting and turning activities are gradually introduced.

52 WEEKS ON

The knee should be ready for action again.

The rehabilitation does not end there however, as probably the biggest hurdle to jump is the psychological one when the field is finally taken again.

All of a sudden a knee which has had so much attention focused on it must be ignored.

It must be jumped off, twisted on, bumped and kicked with as the player's physical rehab. ends and his football rehab. begins.

There can be no time level put on this.

It cannot be quantified.

It must be experienced and overcome.

Olympic quartet sought by agent

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

FOUR of Sydney Olympic's star players have been contacted by Belgian agent Israel Moaz, who has offered them trials with clubs in Belgium.

Moaz, who flew into Sydney two weeks ago, has been looking at NSL players likely to interest clubs in Belgium, including Sydney Croatia's Ned Zelic and Marconi's Paul Okon.

The four players targeted from Sydney Olympic are Steve Refenes, Andrew Bernal, Alistair Edwards and Abbas Saad.

The agent made contact with the quartet without official permission from the Sydney

Olympic Board of Directors.

Coach Mick Hickman was not happy when made aware of the 'raid' on his playing staff.

"Nobody is going anywhere till the end of the season."

"All players are under contract and this approach is nothing short of poaching," he protested.

But the players in reality have been offered nothing.

No contracts have been discussed.

Only trials in Belgium have been offered so far, and nothing else.



Heidelberg's Nick Ousalkis brings South Melbourne striker Paul Trimboli to grief when they clashed recently in the big Melbourne 'Greek' derby — Photo by JOE MONTE-MURRO

South's promotion a shining example

BY TONY ABATE

IN an age when marketing is part and parcel of Australian sport, one NSL club in Melbourne is at last starting to promote itself effectively off the field as well.

South Melbourne Hellas, with one of the largest supporter bases in Victoria, has finally realised that it has an enormous marketing potential off the park.

In an innovative move, the club has recently launched the South Melbourne Hellas Supporters' Club.

The establishment of such a club is set to bring about a chain of positive effects.

To join the club, prospective subscribers only have to pay \$5 annually in order to receive a Hellas key ring, regular newsletter, and first option to tickets for South Melbourne social functions.

Such a club will do wonders for the ordinary fan on the terraces.

Besides the tangible advantages, a supporters' club will make ordinary fans feel like they are a more integral part of the establishment.

There will also be many pluses for South Melbourne Hellas itself.

Not only will a supporters' club generate extra funds, it could act as a channel for the club to gage the thoughts of many of its loyal followers.

A supporters' club could also act as a stepping stone for attracting more South Melbourne Hellas full members.

South Melbourne are also seeing great profits in its souvenir shop.

Once more, the gain is not only purely financial.

Although the club is selling a good deal of merchandise, their fans are also relishing the opportunity of buying everything from sweatbands to tracksuits in order to show support for their beloved club.

Fellow Victorian NSL clubs Sunshine George,



Melbourne Croatia, Heidelberg Alexander, and Preston should take note of South's promotions.

With the same careful planning, all four clubs could also share in marketing success given their good followings to matches.

Given the state's previous provisions against gambling facilities, Victorian NSL clubs have for too long lived in the shadow of their Sydney counterparts in regards to raising revenue off the park.

Hopefully, South Melbourne Hellas' fresh approach to generating funds from external sources will mean a new era for Victorian clubs who seek to obtain the ever-elusive marketing dollar.

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REGIONAL NEWS

ASW is always keen to publish some stories and pictures from main regional centres throughout Australia.

Publicity officers, here is the chance to make your district wider known in the game.

Address material to ASW, PO Box 406, Broadway 2007.

ZLATKO NASTEVSKI

Without the considerable talents of the trio Marconi didn't have the firepower to win a third successive grand final, Apia fell from top place to eventually miss the finals and Sunshine's early season good form gave way to yet another

"The physical rehabilitation from the reconstruction means pain for the player involved.

"Physical, mental and emotional pain."

In the following piece written for ASW, Connor describes what the ACL actually is and



The principal of Booragul High School Mr Jim Heymann (centre) photographed with the four guests after whom the Houses were named, following the Charter ceremony held at the school on November 26.

The School Houses are Langlands House, named after the first Vice-Captain Terry Langlands, who lost his life in Vietnam and was represented by his mother Mrs Dulcie Mainprize; Holland House, named after Robert "Dutchy" Holland who became an Australian test crick-

eter; Johnston House after Craig Johnston who became a soccer star with Liverpool and Turner House, after Bill Turner who taught at the school for 29 years.

All four men have a high-profile soccer background — Langlands and Holland played First Division in Northern NSW, Johnston played in England and Bill Turner is or has been a schools soccer administrator and a top grade referee amongst other educational and sporting activities — PHOTO YEAR 11 BOORAGUL HIGH SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS.

Booragul High School Ceremony

ON Monday, November 26, Booragul High School held a ceremony that was special not only to the school, but to many ex-members, both staff and students alike.

As a result of revitalisation of the School's House system, the decision was made to rename the four school houses.

Voting by students, staff and parents led to the names of well known and respected ex-members being adopted.

The Houses were named for long-time staff member and well

known soccer personality, Bill Turner (of Bill Turner Soccer Cup fame), cricketer, Bob "Dutchie" Holland, international player, Craig Johnston, and Terry Langlands, the only ex-pupil of Booragul High to die whilst on active service.

Terry was represented at the ceremony by his mother, Mrs Dulcie Mainprize.

Bill Turner was especially pleased to claim that all three of the others honoured were not only ex-students of his, but had all been keen and talented soccer players from their earliest contact with him.



Addressing the overflow assembly at Booragul High School is soccer star, Craig Johnston. In attendance to sign the new House Charter, Craig gave a very motivational speech to the students of the school — Photo by BOORAGUL HIGH SCHOOL YEAR 11 PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS



Signing the Booragul High School House Charter recently is long-serving teacher Bill Turner. Bill taught at Booragul for 29 years, only missing its first three years. Also pictured on stage are

Kriston Rundle, School Captain and Chairperson, Principal, Mr Jim Heymann and Robert Holland obscured Craig Johnston, Mrs Dulcie Mainprize and standing Ms Robyn Hayward teacher-in-charge of stage management — Photo taken by BOORAGUL HIGH SCHOOL YEAR 11 PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS

Young Queensland referee honoured

BY W.A. LAWSON

BUNDEKIN (Ayr/Home Hill, North Queensland) referee Mark Shield has received State-wide recognition by being named Queensland Junior Referee of the Year for 1990.

Mark was presented with the award at a formal break-up and presentation evening of the AASRF held at Brisbane on November 24.

The assessment of Mark's ability was made when he participated in three field tests in Brisbane last August.

In 1988, he won the Queensland Rookie of

Class 3 theory but was too young to receive his badge.

In 1988, his family moved to Ayr and, following his 14th birthday he began officiating at junior matches at Ayr and as he gained experience he handled centres in the NQSF women's competition and lines on the third and reserve grade men's matches.

He has also officiated at Queensland State junior carnivals such as the Gino Paris Carnival for U12 years at Ayr in 1988 and the State U13 championships at Townsville in 1989.



Mark Shield with the perpetual and replica trophies for Queensland Junior Referee of the Year.

the Year award and in 1989 he was the runner-up Junior Referee of the Year.

Mark began his refereeing career through the Johnstone River Junior Soccer Association when the family lived at Innisfail where he passed his

In 1990, he completed his Class 2 theory and examination through the Townsville branch of the ASRF.

Mark hopes to achieve Level I qualification and referee in the World Cup one day.

PLAYERS WANTED

LEMNOS ALLSTARS SOCCER CLUB

Lemnos Allstars want to win the NSW State League Division 3 competition in the 1991 Season.

To ensure promotion, we now seek the services of players with a professional attitude, or seek to learn it.

Trials will be staged every Tuesday and Thursday, commencing January 15 at 6.15pm.

Interested players are invited to contact coach and former Socceroo John Doyle at the trials to be held at:

Bark-Hut Reserve
Elliott Street, Belfield

Youth League players are also invited to these trials.

AWSA BASIC SKILLS COACHING VIDEO

The Australian Women's Soccer Association has produced a half-hour basic skills coaching video as an aid to teachers, parents and non-qualified coaches who are teaching young players the basic skills they need to play soccer.

Copies of the video, "Soccer — a Game For All", are now available from the AWSA for \$30.00 each (cost includes postage). All tapes are VHS only.

To order your copies, please mail your cheques or money orders payable to the AWSA, ACT Sports House, Maitland Street, Hack-



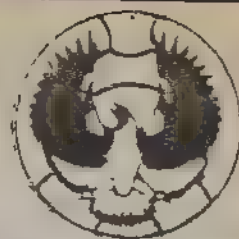
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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCCER SCENE

WITH ALAN CLARK



Adelaide Hellas 2 Adelaide Croatia 1 was the final scoreline in the West End Cup on August 22 — Photo by JANUSZ KAMMA.

ANDREW Borghetto and Richard Miranda had their transfer fees reduced by the Transfer Appeals tribunal.

Exciting Lion midfielder Borghetto's fee was reduced to \$8000 with \$9000 now being required for Miranda.

Borghetto presently is taking a break in Italy. "We are happy with the outcome of the tribunal," said Lion chief John Dnistrianski. "The fee of \$60,000 that has been mentioned was in the event he was to play in Italy. If he was to go to any State League club it was to have been \$10,000."

Miranda, who dislocated his ankle playing with Hellas in the NSL qualifiers, is being sought by Apia. Hellas sought \$10,000 for his transfer.

NSL hopefuls Azzurri, Croatia and Salisbury could have no better measuring stick for their season than the prestige 32nd Ampol Cup.

The pre-season tournament, to be launched at a barbecue on January 12, kicks off four days later at Hindmarsh.

Azzurri, Croatia and

Salisbury are teamed in Group A with Adelaide City.

Even given that the Foundation SA League clubs only will be breaking into stride, the meeting with the NSL giant will show just what work they will have to do in the season ahead to become NSL rivals.

"I hope City plays its full NSL squad in the matches," said Croatia coach Donald Campbell.

"Apart from being good for fans in SA, it will give teams like Azzurri, Salisbury and ourselves a chance to gauge just how we are placed."

"We shall see if we are near to City or if we still have a lot of work to do. As holder, we obviously want to do well in the Ampol Cup and are looking forward to it."

Croatia attracted around 600 fans to a picnic day meeting with Polonia. The young squad meets Azzurri on Friday from 6.30pm at the Parks Community Centre.

Polonia opens the Ampol season on January 16 at 7.30pm with the early game against

Beograd.

Croatia and Adelaide City clash from 9pm.

The competition, comprising City, Croatia, Azzurri, Salisbury, Hellas, Beograd, Polonia and Modbury runs each Wednesday until the final on March 6.

ADELAIDE Croatia has been given a State League boost with Mladen Putanec re-signing for 1991.

Putanec, perhaps the most influential player in the skilled Croatia line-up, trialled with Melbourne Croatia before the NSL season.

But he has been back training with the local Croatian side and is ready to help the push for an invitation to apply for the revamped NSL.

George Konstandopoulos has the plaster removed from his injured foot this month and will begin training in a bid to play in some Ampol Cup games. Import sweeper Wojtek Jagoda has been an absentee from most sessions through injury.

USC Lion-Grange men Larry Salerno and Elvis Markov have been in

trial action with Polonia.

Both are part of the hurly-burly process of who is going where which will be settled in the new few weeks.

MODBURY is confident stalwart defender Richard Parsons will re-sign for the new season.

Parsons, one of the quiet achievers in SA soccer, has been on holiday but all indications are he will be back at Golden Grove for the new year.

Burly Bryan Kent has been told he is a required Modbury player and is likely to line-up again with the blue and whites. Kent, whose brother Terry left Modbury for Para Hills, has had minor surgery on an ankle complaint but is expected back at training soon.

"Everybody else has been fixed up for the new season," said club spokesman Terry Thorp. "We are waiting to hear from George Whyte who is training with Hellas. But there is a chance he could stay with us."



Mladen Putanec

National Division 2

BY PETER KUGELMAN

THIS week I give you further details of my idea for two divisions of the NSL.

You will remember that they are very different in nature: the top division is elitist, being only for the best teams (even if all from just a few cities).

The '2nd division' is really an expanded version of the current play-off series (allowing participation by any section of our vast country).

Major rules I propose for this 2nd division follow:

Each 'soccer state' may nominate one entry (selection solely and totally at the discretion of the state body).

Nomination may even be of a 'representative' side, as I believe this would soon develop into a 'club' — especially if further nominations were to be required from the same State in the future.

It is to be played as a round robin, home and away, with no 'finals' series.

A 'finals' series is retained for the 1st Division.

The 2nd Division may be played in regions if required, with a home and away play-off of each region's top club — at least 13 clear days are to be allowed between the regional matches and the play-off matches.

Voluntary relegation is solely by choice of any club.

There is no compulsory relegation from the 2nd Division unless:

(a) the club has finished bottom for two (or more) consecutive years, AND
(b) relegation is enforced by NSL management and then only on the grounds of 'below average' facilities AND 'below average' attendance;

From the NSL Second Division, one club (finishing top most of those not seeking relegation) is to be promoted to the NSL First Division and from the NSL First Division, one club finishing bottom-most is to be relegated.

The simplest way to implement the change (but not necessarily the best in the long run) is to run the 'second division' from about December to about February — concurrently with the 'first division'.

The shortness of the period is to reduce current problems with 'overlapping seasons'.

Irving joins White Eagle

BY WALTER PLESS



Peter Irving displays a trophy, one of several won in a distinguished career.

Peter Irving, the well-known Newcastle coach, has taken over the helm at Tasmanian State League champion, White Eagle, after being idle for the past two seasons.

Irving first came to Tasmania in 1987 and coached Hobart Juventus for two seasons before clicking his heels on the sidelines for the next two years.

He almost landed the Glenorchy Croatia job last year but negotiations fell through at the last moment.

White Eagle has won four championships in the past five seasons, the last three in succession.

Eugene Mycak, who coached the team to its past two successes, has taken over at Hobart Juventus, whose coach for most of last year, Eamonn Kelly, has moved to Croatia-Glenorchy.

Croatia finished second-last in the season just completed and coach Karl Pless has resigned.

Kelly will certainly have his work cut out for him at Croatia. He has signed a one-year contract and after the first six months has an option to sign for a second year.

He is keen to sign four or five experienced players to bolster the talented young players already at the club.

Ken Morton remains at Olympia-SBT Bank, while Caledonian has yet to name a coach for the 1991 season.

Caledonian is believed to be negotiating with a former NSL player but his appointment depends on him being transferred to Tasmania in his employment.

North-West Coast club Ulverstone has appointed Les Jones as its new coach following the resignation of Alex McDonald, who will remain active with the club's juniors.

Tasmanian supporters were interested to hear of the appointment of Ken Worden as Melbourne Croatia's new coach.

Worden spent a number of years in Tasmania in the 1970s as both a player and a coach with White Eagle, Hobart Juventus and Launceston Juventus before moving interstate.

Ken Morton applied for the Melbourne Croatia job earlier this year.

Promising young Tasmanian goalkeeper, Brett Williams, 18, is doing well at English Second Division club, Notts County.

Williams, formerly with Hobart Juventus, went to Notts County on trial in October and is currently playing in the club's reserve team.

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1991

Night Soccer

Every Wednesday Night
Hindmarsh Stadium



The South Australian Soccer Federation, in conjunction with Ampol are to announce the 32nd Ampol Cup Night Soccer Series.

Saturday, January 12, 1991 at the home of soccer — Hindmarsh Stadium we will be proudly launching the series.

You are invited to a barbecue lunch commencing at 1pm.

For further information please call Josephine at the Stadium on 340 0688.

Josephine Dean-Shaw
Secretary-SASF

ALTONA TROUNCE CROATIA

BY ROY HAY

IN the replay of last year's National Youth League (Southern Division) grand final, Altona Gate had a very convincing 4-0 win over Melbourne Croatia at Paisley Reserve in Round 13.

Croatia had several opportunities to take the lead in the first half and Richard Milanovic missed a penalty kick.

Altona Gate came storming back with three goals in the first 10 minutes of the second half from Trajce Latomanski, who scored twice and Danny Stresnjak.

Victor Mendes got Altona Gate's other goal.

South Melbourne Hellas had a runaway 9-1 win over Springvale Colts which once again found itself out of its depth.

Con Boutsianis scored five times, Peter Nikolakopoulos added a hat-trick and Steve Tasios had one in his return after injury.

Pasquale Grella got Springvale's consolation.

Geelong City fought back from 2-0 down to steal the match from Preston Makedonia in the last minute at Stead Park.

Nick Georgopoulos crashed home a volley and then a Preston corner kick went through two sets of legs and hit the keeper's arm before finishing in the Geelong net.

Charles Fitzpatrick pulled one back with a penalty, then accepted a gift in front of goal to equalise and Stephen McAuliffe scored the dramatic 3-2 winner through a ruck of bodies.

Sunshine George Cross beat South Melbourne Hellas Colts 2-1 at Skinner Reserve, with Mitch Cattermole putting Georgie ahead only for Australian Joey Alex Kiratzoglou to equalise for Hellas Colts.

Vasko Tipceviski scored Georgie's winner in 59 minutes.

Heidelberg United had a good 3-1 away win over Melbourne Croatia, at last on the main pitch at Somers Street.

Stavros Mangos gave Heidelberg the lead, then Con Sindrivanis added another 33 seconds after the start of the second half.

Jani Suric pulled one back for the Colts, his 11th goal of the season, but Mangos got his second for Heidelberg to secure the points.

Northcote City bounced back to beat Brighton 3-1 at John Cain Reserve, but it took two Nick Hatzilazaridis penalties in the first half to put Northcote on its way.

His hat-trick goal was a beauty as he chipped the advancing keeper for 30 metres.

Con Karagiannis scored for Brighton, which found Northcote keeper Nick Tsamis in

fine form.

Heat and Adelaide City proved too much for Caulfield City at Hindmarsh, with Adelaide winning 5-1.

Sergio Melta contributed one goal, playing because of suspension in the NSL, and Carlo Talladira and Joe Barbaro each scored twice.

The result takes Adelaide's goal tally to 51 for the first half of the NYL season.

LEAGUE LADDER
30.12.90

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Adelaide City	13	11	1	1	51	13	23
Sunshine GC	13	9	2	2	29	19	20
Sth Melb. Hellas	13	8	3	2	40	15	19
Preston Make	13	7	2	4	35	18	16
Altona Gate	13	7	2	4	26	15	16
Heidelberg Utd	13	6	3	4	23	22	15
Melb. Croatia	13	7	0	6	34	25	14
Caulfield City	13	5	4	4	19	21	14
Geelong City	13	4	3	6	23	31	11
Northcote City	13	4	1	8	24	42	9
Melb. Croatia C	13	3	2	8	18	34	8
SMHC	13	3	1	9	11	30	7
Brighton	13	2	1	10	8	25	5
Springvale City	13	1	3	9	13	44	5

LEADING GOALSCORERS
30.12.90

Carlo Talladira Adelaide City 13, Jani Suric Melbourne Croatia Colts 11, George Aikakos Caulfield City 10, Michael Cattermole Sunshine George Cross 9, Peter Nikolakopoulos South Melbourne Hellas 9, Michael Brooks Adelaide City 8, Nick Georgopoulos Preston Makedonia 8, Con Boutsianis South Melbourne Hellas 8, Joe Barbaro Adelaide City 7, Nick Papadopolou Heidelberg United 7, Craig Plummer Geelong City 6, Stavros Mangos Heidelberg United 6, Michael Nikolakopoulos South Melbourne Hellas 6.

CLUBS AND REFEREES

Would all clubs ensure that they phone results and scorers for both teams to Roy Hay on 052-435 966 on Sundays so that the information can be supplied to the press, radio and TV as soon as possible.

Please feel free to make copies of this newsletter and distribute it to your players and supporters.

Would all referees please ensure that they send the relevant copies of the team sheets, with scores, scorers and cautions (including points awarded for offences) to Vicki Juric, National Soccer League, 23-25 Frederick Street, Rockdale, NSW 2216 as soon as possible after the game.

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Good start to 1991 NYLN

BY PAUL GOODWIN



Oswaldo El-Ali

bounded off the wall and Peter Murray drove the ball under the feet of the defenders still in position for the free kick, who were caught on the hop.

Adamstown Rosebuds continue to push their opponents hard and the latest to be tested were Wollongong City who defeated the Newcastle visitors 2-0 at Brandon Park.

Peter Kotanidis scored in the 39th and Danny Petkovic got the second from the spot in the 70th.

For Adamstown George Sefouris hit the bar and Steven Kacev rattled the bar, with other excellent shots well saved by Mick Atsos in the Wolves goal.

Back at Budgewoi

Oval next weekend, the Rosebuds will finally return to Adamstown Oval for their remaining fixtures in a fortnight.

Parramatta Melita maintained their challenge for honours with a sound 2-0 win over Wollongong Macedonia at Melita Stadium.

Julio Gulic in the 7th minute and Aldo Martincich in the 55th provided the all important goals.

Marconi and Sydney Croatia had a keen tussle at Marconi Stadium, with a penalty apiece keeping the sides together until Glen Johnson scored the winner in the 67th to give Marconi a 2-1 success.

Greg Carluccio had netted first from the

spot for Croatia in the 41st, but Gabriel Mendez had the answer in the 44th with his own successful penalty shot.

An eventful game at the Valentine Complex in Newcastle wound up as a 4-2 win for Sydney Olympic over-locals Highfields Azzurri.

A 600-strong crowd saw the home side go two goals up within 11 minutes, only for Olympic to level 2-0 moments after the break.

Craig Penfold opened the scoring in the ninth minute after a through ball by John Tonkin and Brad Van Epan scored another for the club with a tidy finish to a cross by regular provider Ricki Bucci.

Azzurri 'keeper Lee Archer was in the thick of the action and did well to save a Bill Baltatis free kick after being penalised for taking too many steps in the 28th.

Three minutes later, though, Baltatis ended a solo run with a 30 metre shot that made it 2-1 and in the 46th it was the turn of Pablo Cardoso to turn five defenders inside out and find the net.

Ari Triantifylou grabbed the two goals that made all the difference as the game reached a crescendo.

Olympic were proving a real handful and Archer had to be replaced in goal when he suffered suspected broken ribs in a high challenge.

Glen Cooper cleared one Olympic shot from the line, a Highfields player was sent off, but substitute 'keeper Michael Kmet could do nothing to stop the 89th minute goal which put the issue beyond doubt.

Results submitted
Round 14

Wollongong City 2 (Kotamanidis) Petrovic pen) Adamstown 0 St George 2 (Kotsias, Poric) Apia Leichhardt 1 (Murray) Marconi 2 (Mendez pen, Johnson) Sydney Croatia 1 (Carluccio) Parramatta Melita 2 (Gulic, Martincich) Wollongong Macedonia 0 Highfield Azzurri 2 (Penfold, Van Epan) Sydney Olympic 4 (Baltatis, Cardoso A. Triantifylou 2).

Leading Scorers

9: David Batten
7: John Kakakios, Adam Poric (St George)
6: Stephen Corica (AIS/Marconi), Adam Ciantar (St George), Pablo Cardoso (Olympic), Aldo Martincich (Melita)

St George	12	9	1	2	36	18	19
AIS	9	7	2	0	25	10	16
Parramatta	12	7	3	2	19	9	17
Sydney Olympic	12	7	4	2	19	11	15
Sydney Croatia	11	7	1	3	23	9	15
Wollongong City	12	5	3	4	15	16	13
Highfield Azzurri	12	4	3	5	22	11	10
Sydney Academy	10	4	2	4	19	13	10
Marconi	12	4	1	7	17	21	9
Apia	12	3	2	7	19	26	8
Wongong Mace	12	1	1	10	7	32	3
Adamstown R'bud	1	2	0	1	1	1	4

CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 1

The ASF would have to secure sponsors to gain the finances necessary to keep Australia's top players in the country — a daunting prospect in these tough economic times.

However, this appears to be the only way to go if we are to retain our elite players.

The ASF is also going ahead with plans to appoint an official agent to handle the transfer of Australians abroad.

— LOU GAUTIER

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Kiwis stern test for Ecuador-bound Joeys

BY TED SIMMONS of AAP

THE Australian under 17 national team, the Joeys, start their quest for a berth in the World Cup finals in Ecuador in August this weekend when they take part in the Oceania qualifiers in Napier, New Zealand.

The young Australians spent five days at the Australian Institute of Sport under coach Les Scheinflug to fine tune skills and teamwork needed to get them through the qualifiers.

Two late changes have been made to the group which competed so successfully in the recent tour of Chile.

Victorian fullback Carmelo Bazzano and attacking midfielder Christian Barrios from St George come into the side while Eduardo Pena drops out with injury and Jason Farrugia and David Thomas move to standby.



In a revised draw after the withdrawal of Papua New Guinea, Australia will now play Fiji in the opening match on January 12, followed by Tahiti three



Joeys coach Les Scheinflug and his sidekick Raul Blanco who won't be travelling to New Zealand this time.

days later, with the final game against New Zealand on January 18.

Even this, however, is in some doubt as there are rumours that Tahiti may also pull out.

If this happens, the three remaining teams may have to play each other twice.

Winner of the round-robin tournament will qualify direct to the World under 17 finals.

"I anticipate that Oceania will be a much more physical and direct competition than that we experienced in Chile," said Scheinflug.

"In Canberra, we had two matches against the AIS.

"It gave us us the right type of condition against older players because the team has had to return from Chile to their clubs and we need them to regain international match fitness."

Scheinflug is con-

cerned about three of his players, including captain Anthony Carbone from Perth, who have problems in training because of the lack of NSW sides in Western Australia and Queensland.

But a bigger worry for Scheinflug is the lack of knowledge about his opposition.



"We're going in blind again because of the lack of information on the other teams which is always hard," he said.

"However, the players have to believe that at this level they can compete with anyone."

"What happened in past tournaments has to be forgotten. This is a new tournament with new teams and we must think positive."

Scheinflug is more convinced than ever that the tour to Chile was a blessing and introduced many of the players to South American skills, the atmosphere of big crowds and the pressure of playing five games in nine days.



"I would love to have this team for two years because they have shown they're capable of being a good side," he said.

"They don't like losing. They want to be winners and have the capacity to go much further."

Australia has been a strong challenger in the previous world championships which were restricted to Under 16 level but this will be the first official Under 17 world title.

It will also be the first effort at this age group by Scheinflug, a successful coach at youth level, who took over from former national junior coach Vic Dalglish.

Under 17 Aussies in New Zealand

TOUR LEADER:
NAT. COACH:
ASSIST. NAT. COACH:
COACHING STAFF:
GEAR AND ADMINIS.:
DOCTOR:
PHYSIOTHERAPIST:
REFEREE:

DAVID WILLIAMS
EDDIE THOMSON
LES SCHEINFLUG
RAUL BLANCO
ROD WOODS
PETER LORENZ
ANDREW WILSON
CHRIS BAMBRIDGE

PLAYERS:

GEORGE KARAMALIS
FRANC BOT
TONY JOSEVSKI
PAUL DEE
MATHEW COUTOUVIDIS
DOMENIC USALJ
LORENZO CAMPAGNA
ANTHONY CARBONE
VASILIOS KALEGERACOS
ALEX KIRATZOGLOU
VASKO TRPCEVSKI
CRAIG MOORE
AARON HEALEY
CRISTIAN BARRIOS
FABIO MACOLINO
CARMELO BAZZANO
DARREN IOCCA
STEVEN WARDLE

SA
VIC
NSW
NSW
SA
NSW
NSW
WA
WA
VIC
VIC
QLD
VIC
NSW
NSW
VIC
NSW
VIC

FUTSAL BONANZA

The National Indoor Soccer Championships bring more than a million dollars of business to Canberra — and will continue to do so until at least 1994.

Australian Futsal chairman Joe Brent said 220 teams had so far entered the 1991 titles at the Australian Institute of Sport over Australia Day weekend.

"With players, parents and officials that means between 3000 and 3500 people are involved — and around \$1.2 million in business for Canberra," Brent said.

"And we're sticking with Canberra as a venue until at least 1994. Its position makes it an ideal centre for the eastern states, where the vast majority of our teams play."

The inter-state championships will be held on the Saturday with the club titles being played over Sunday and Monday.

While entries do not close until January 11, Futsal has already received confirmed entries from four New Zealand teams at under 11, 12, 13 and 15 levels.

Meanwhile, the ACT under 20 side warmed up for its title challenge with a 3-0 win over leading club side West Coast Coolers.

The Coolers, playing just a week after their victory in the ACT Southside League, fell to goals from Claudio Palombi (2) and Arsenije Popovich.

The ACT is coached by Tony Olivera and managed by John King.

Vic Fernandez has been appointed coach of Olympic for the 1991 season, club official Don Rushan announced.

The club's success in tempting Fernandez back into club coaching after a three-year break is considered a major coup for the club, last season's Second Division champion.

A former team boss of Canberra City, Fernandez's last major appointment was in charge of Inter Monaro in its first season back in the NSW League in 1987.

With the Olympic post settled, the one remaining question in the ACT First Division is who coaches Canberra Croatia?

The post has been advertised and an announcement is expected shortly.

— GRAHAM COOKE

Promotion and Registration Day

BY ROBERT WHEATLEY

THE statewide NSW Amateur Federation soccer registration day is progressing extremely well.

On Saturday, February 9, 1991 associations throughout NSW will be holding a day where anyone anywhere can register in as many locations as possible.

A promotional brochure on soccer and its benefits as well as general information on aspects of the game has been produced which also includes information of where a club or association is registering.

For most Sydney Associations I have organised the day to operate at a major shopping centre in their area.

The top half of the rear panel of this brochure is available for your message, products or service that will reach tens of thousands of soccer players and supporters.

The costs associated with sponsoring this part of the brochure are very reasonable and they would be delivered by the clubs to local schools in their area prior to the registration day.

Nearly 100,000 brochures have already been taken up by three associations and I am planning to order another similar amount to cover the needs of remaining



parts of Sydney and New South Wales.

Details

Saturday, February 2: Warringah Mall, Westfield Miranda.

Saturday, February 9: Westfield Hurstville, Westfield Liverpool, Westfield Parramatta, Westfield Chatswood, Macarthur Mall, Bass Hill Plaza, Roselands.

Saturday, February 16: Penrith Mall.



VIDEO OF THE WEEK

SOCCER SUPERSTARS OF THE 50s AND 60s

The 1950s and 1960s were golden years for soccer.

The World Cup, re-established in 1950 after a break of twelve years, became the focus for the finest international talents.

The introduction of the European Cup in 1955-56 provided a showcase for a series of outstanding club teams.

New styles, new tactics and new techniques emerged.

The Hungarians dazzled England at Wembley and in Budapest, whilst Real Madrid enjoyed five consecutive seasons as champions of Europe.

Brazil, playing with breathtaking artistry and imagination, became champions of the world in 1958.

Eight years later, England were to take the title in front of their own fans at Wembley.

A golden era produced great stars — Hidegkuti and Puskas from Hungary... Di Stefano, the Argentinian international who also played for Spain... Uwe Seeler, the long-serving West German striker... the incomparable Pele... Billy Wright and Bobby Charlton, who both won more than a hundred international caps... Matthews and Finney, Lofthouse, Law and Best... superb goalkeepers — Trautmann, Banks and Yashin.

These and many more are featured in starring roles for club and country in Soccer Superstars.

Running time 50 minutes. Price \$24. Postage and handling per order \$2.50. Available from the office of the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation, P.O. Box 84 Toongabbie 2146 or by phoning (02) 629-2833 for credit card purchases.

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Our firm specialises in all legal matters involving the soccer code, and including:

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Once mighty Santos on the skids

BY BRIAN HOMEWOOD*

GET the handkerchiefs out and prepare for one of the saddest stories in football — the decline of Santos Football Club.

Beset by financial problems, the club where Pele spent most of his career and who twice won the World Club Championship today struggle to avoid relegation, are barely able to pay salaries on time, and even have difficulty providing shirts for the players.

Attendances at the Vila Belmiro Stadium hover precariously around the 3,000 mark and the club have won only one title in the last 12 years — namely the Paulista championship in 1984.

The recent record in the Brazilian national championship is best left unmentioned and last year only Curitiba's suspension saved Santos from the relegation play-off.

Most Brazilians would struggle to name more than one or two members of the present team.

Current president Antonio Aguiar Filho is desperately trying to improve matters and restore at least some former glory, but with money so scarce, he realises that it will be a long slow process, testing the patience of the club's supporters.

Unlike the man he succeeded, Miguel Assad, who attempted a series of audacious marketing plans to bring in funds — none ever came off — Aguiar is concentrating on something most of his predecessors seemed to forget about: the team.

Interested

"Santos was one of the world's strongest teams but in the last decade declined because of bad administration," he says.

"The people who were running Santos were doing it with the objective of making a name for themselves. They were interested in the presidency to put themselves in the lime-light and give themselves political prestige, but in doing so they forgot about the club."

"My administration is aimed at concentrating on the players and creating a team strong enough to regain the prestige that the club once had."

"Santos have everything to become a great club again. It's just a question of time and an administration that is interested in achieving this."

When Aguiar took over, the situation had hit bottom. "The club were in a very difficult financial position with debts to pay," he recalls.

"We were short of players, we were even without shirts to be able to participate in the

opening stage of the 1990 Sao Paulo championship."

Since then, things have slowly been getting better. The debts have been paid, the club now have "some money in the till" and five new signings have been made.

"We did this with donations from some of the directors and a lottery which is held at the stadium once a month," says Aguiar.

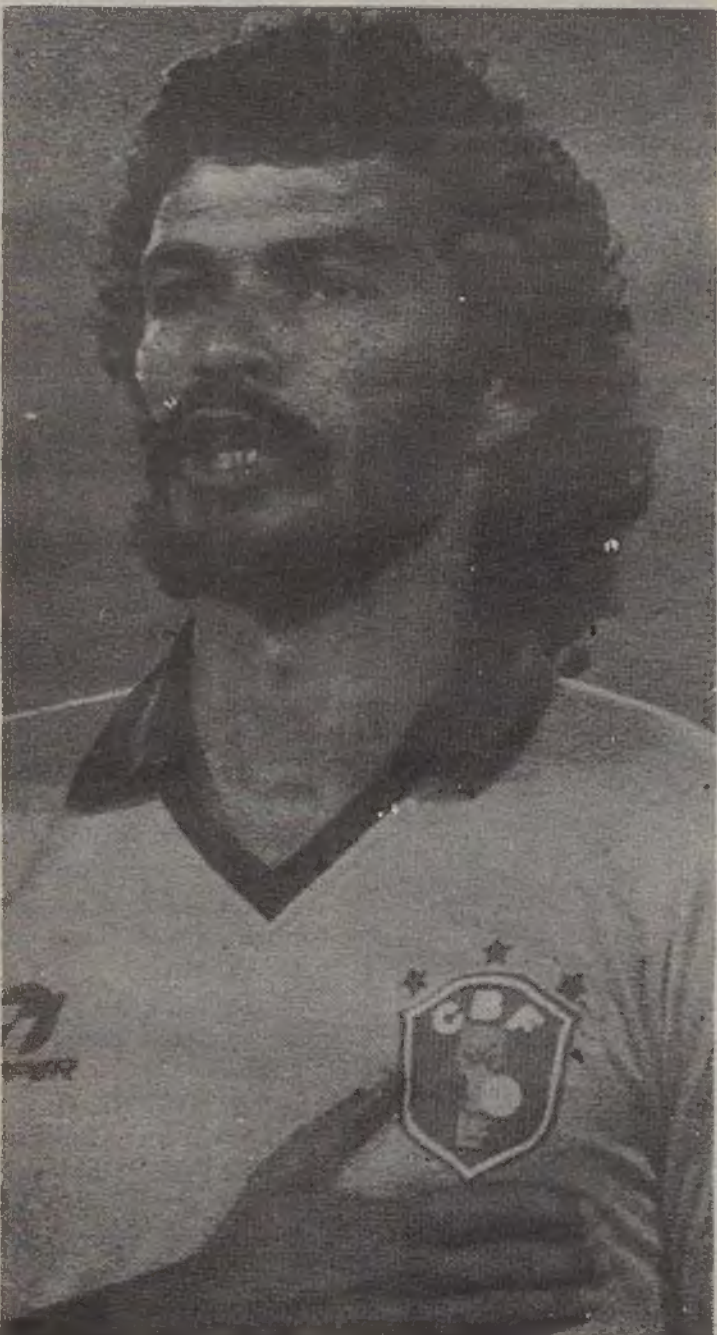
He now aims to continue improving the team, mainly by bringing in players from the youth divisions in which the club have begun investing more heavily.

"There are a lot of good players coming up. In the past, because of financial difficulties Santos used to let players go elsewhere when they reached 18 or 19. Now we are holding on to them and we hope they will be the salvation of the club."

Aguiar also intends to keep bringing in players from outside to add some experience. "We still can't make any big signings, but we can make intelligent signings."

He hopes the team will be able to make a serious bid for both the Sao Paulo and Brazilian championships next year "though we might have to wait until 1992."

Aguiar already has shown that he is patient, especially by the standards of most Brazilian directors. Manager



SOCRATES

Pepe, who joined the club after an unfortunate stint in charge of the Peruvian national team, has been at the club for more than a year, which is an eternity in Brazil — he is already one of the country's longest-



serving managers.

The supporters, however, are not willing to wait. "They want the team to be as good as the one we had in the 1960s, and want immediate results," Aguiar says.

He adds that the club also intend to build a sports complex in the city centre and launch a campaign to attract members, adding to the revenue.

The sports complex idea was one of several ideas tried by former president Assad in his attempts to make the club financially viable.

He brought Socrates to Santos at the end of 1988, after "the doctor" had spent a year out of the game.

Socrates was supposed to act as a leader on the pitch and be used in an advertising campaign to sell shares in the complex. Neither plan came to fruition.

wave was to auction the No 10 shirt.

Numbered

He planned to arrange a friendly against a top European side in which Pele would appear for Santos wearing "his" number.

At the end of the match the shirt would be auctioned off and from then on Santos would cease to have a number 10 in the side — they would be numbered 1-9 then 11 and 20.

The idea was expected to raise \$7.5 million, but never got off the ground.

Assad also tried to persuade Luciano do Valle, the commentator/businessman/football manager, who runs the Brazil veterans' side and organises the Copa Pele, to form a team of star veterans to play exhibition matches abroad using the Santos name, but this too failed.

Money, of course, never used to be a problem.

During the halcyon days of Pele, Coutinho and Zito, the dollars flowed in as the team travelled round the world playing exhibition after exhibition for up to \$US40,000 a time.

Santos in their heyday were a team Europeans would pay dearly to see.

The club, founded in 1912, made little impact in the early years, winning only the Paulista championship in 1935. But in the mid-1950s, with Pele, the situation changed dramatically.

Between 1955 and 1965 Santos won the Paulista championship seven times, the old Rio-Sao Paulo Cup three, the Brazil Cup five (in successive years), the Libertadores Cup twice and the World Club championship twice.

Many of the scorelines read like fiction, with Santos often hitting the net eight or nine times in a game.

Even championship finals provided goal festivals. In the 1962 World Club Championship final, Santos beat Benfica 3-2 at home before achieving a stunning 5-2 win in Lisbon, having at one stage led 5-0.

The next year they lost 2-0 away to AC Milan before winning

the return 4-2 even without Pele and Zito. Santos then went on to clinch the trophy in a replay.

Performances like this put the club in enormous demand abroad and the players were subjected to long and exhausting tours, often having to play in different cities on successive days.

The revenues were enormous but even at this stage the money was being thrown away almost as quickly as it rolled in.

"If Santos had taken

Brazil.

Usually the directors would invite everyone and his dog, with the vast delegations staying in five-star hotels and frequenting luxury restaurants, night clubs and casinos.

Registered

Journalists claimed that on one trip to Europe during the 1960s the directors spent all the money that has been earned on the tour and then said they had lost it at the airport. The episode became known as "the dollars that fell

hotel expenses in Santiago and left without paying."

The current Santos team contains five players who have come up through the club's youth divisions — left-back Flavinho, central defender Camilo, midfielders Cesar Sampaio and Axel, and winger Sergio Manoel.

Cesar Sampaio is one of the brightest prospects.

There was speculation last year he would be transferred to Europe but the move did not materialise.



Pele at the 1958 World Cup in Sweden.

advantage of their opportunities, they would today be the biggest club in Brazil, but all they have left are the memories of the glories and the crises," Assad commented.

There were numerous stories of scandals and money thrown down the drain. The most famous — or infamous — involved the purchase of the Parque Balneario Hotel, most famous in the city, in 1965.

The directors bought it with the intention of turning it into a casino, even though gambling was illegal, with the money to be paid over five years.

But gambling was not legalised, as had been expected, there were reports of scandalous parties being held during which the contents of the building disappeared, and eventually the club, unable to keep up with the payments, lost everything that had been invested.

Today the site is occupied by a shopping centre and hotel together worth \$30 million.

Much of the money earned on the lucrative tours never got back to

from a plane."

In 1972, the football club was the scene of the biggest robbery ever registered in the city.

After a derby game against Corinthians three directors returned to Vila Belmiro and deposited Santos' revenue in a safe hidden in the changing rooms. Next morning, when they returned, the money had gone.

The safe was intact, no doors had been broken down, the villain obviously knew Vila Belmiro like the back of his hand and had keys.

The press described it as "a perfect crime."

By the early 1980s the golden era had finished and Santos could no longer survive on revenue, needing huge injections of money from presidents with deep pockets to stop bankruptcy.

The situation reached a low point in March last year when a magazine reported that following the financial failure of a tour to Chile, the Santos delegation did not have money to cover their

His form in the Brazilian championship earned him a call-up from Falcao for Brazil's trip to Milan for Pele's 50th birthday celebration.

The current team have only one real idol — and perhaps it is a reflection of the club's state that he is the goalkeeper, Sergio.

His acrobatic saves have rescued his team on numerous occasions and he earned his first full cap against Chile in October.

One other Santos player is also well known abroad — centre-forward Serginho, who played for Brazil in the 1982 World Cup. In recent months, however, Serginho has been making headlines for the wrong reasons.

He was banned for 150 matches after his part in a brawl during a Sao Paulo-Santos match in April, was allowed back earlier, and four days after making his comeback he was sent off.

Sadly, that was typical of his club's decline.

* reprinted from WORLD SOCCER



Heels over head . . . goes Tottenham Hotspur's Pat Van Den Hauwe after a heavy tackle from Luton's Kingsley Black at White Hart Lane, London. Tottenham won 2-1

Beckenbauer will stay at Marseille

BERNARD Tapie, millionaire president of French soccer champions Marseille, said unsettled team chief Franz Beckenbauer would stay with the club and would get a top class trainer as his new assistant.



FRANZ BECKENBAUER

"Everything has been sorted out," he said in a television interview after two hours of talks with Beckenbauer, who had earlier threatened to quit the club he joined only three months ago.

Tapie said Beckenbauer, who led the West German national team

to success in this year's World Cup finals, had had problems adapting to French club football. He needed an assistant who knew French soccer well and who could communicate with the players.

"It will have to be a great trainer," he said.

"And we have secured the best — former Belgian national team and Bordeaux supremo Raymond Goethals."

Beckenbauer had said repeatedly in the last few days that he was prepared to leave the club if certain unspecified problems were not sorted out with Tapie.

"I made a mistake," Tapie said. "I think I have now corrected it. The mistake was to believe you can turn a national team selector for Germany into a trainer with a French club side. It doesn't work like that."

"If we had allowed time, at the end of one and a half to two years, he would have succeeded, of course. The talent is there. But we didn't allow time, myself in particular."

"The fact is that when you don't speak the language at all and when you are learning a new kind of football and when you arrive in mid-season, you need someone else on the technical staff. I have accepted that we found Goethals together."

Tapie, who has unbribed ambitions to see Marseille become the first French winners of the European Cup, said he was not unhappy with Beckenbauer.

"He's not doing bad. We're top of the league by four points and qualified for the European Cup quarter-finals," he added.

Beckenbauer has been under fire in the French media for the erratic form of his expensively assembled side. They have lost five of the 14 matches under his command and were humbled 4-0 last month by championship rivals Auxerre, a small town team with a shoestring budget.

Beckenbauer declined to comment after the talks, telling reporters simply: "I stay, I stay."

Prince Roger!

SIX months after the World Cup, Roger Milla is still receiving honors worthy of a prince. In fact, he is a prince.

Milla, 38, who led Cameroon to the World Cup quarterfinals, headed to the province of Kumba to be ceremonially named a prince by area tribal chiefs "for services rendered during the World Cup 1990".

After that Milla went to Nigeria where he collected another honour from a rich businessman.

Additionally, Milla, as a member of the Cameroon team, was paid about \$115,000 for his team's performance at the World Cup.

Josimar gives cops the slip!

BRAZIL's ex-World Cup star Josimar escaped from police after being arrested in a fashionable Rio de Janeiro suburb.

Josimar, who achieved instant world-wide fame when he scored two spectacular goals in the 1986 World Cup, had "a small quantity of cocaine" in his possession, inspector Carlos Oliveira said.

Josimar was stopped by two officers while driving his car in the suburb of Barra de Tijuca.

He refused to show identification and insisted on going to the police station, Oliveira said.

But before entering the station, Josimar

threw his wallet onto the ground, distracted the officer's attention, jumped into his car and drove away.

Oliveira said police had searched his house without success and were now looking for the player elsewhere.

"What he really needs is help," he said.

The incident is the latest mishap in the defender's career.

Earlier this year he was arrested at a Rio night club, accused of carrying cocaine, but charges were not pressed.



Brondby star Bent Christiansen: his brilliant displays have qualified the Danish club for the quarter-finals of the UEFA where their opponents in March will be Torpedo Moscow.

Around the globe

Compiled by **LOU GAUTIER**



- Engin Ipekoglu, Turkey's national team goalkeeper, has announced his retirement after savage media criticism for his performances in Turkey's Euro-92 qualifying defeats against Ireland and Poland.
- German goalkeeper Harald Schumacher will hang up his boots at the end of this season after playing for Fenerbahce in Turkey for the last three seasons.
- Italian superstar Roberto Baggio is the father of a baby girl, Valentina, whose first photos he sold to an Italian magazine for \$90,000.
- Ethiopia have pulled out of all international competitions for the next two years after mediocre recent results and a lack of finances.
- After winning a tournament in Trinidad against the national teams of Trinidad and Tobago and the United States, the Soviet national side ended its Central American tour with a 5-3 win over Costa Rican champions Deportivo Saprissa, who toured NSW in 1959, before outclassing Costa Rica 3-0.
- Dynamo Kiev's USSR international Vladimir Bessanov has joined fellow international goalkeeper Victor Chanov, at Maccabi Haifa, in Israel.
- The Ukrainian Football Federation is considering forming its own competition, with teams of the calibre of Dynamo Kiev, Chernomorets and Dnepr pulling out of the USSR First Division to compete.
- Hernan Dario Gomez is the new national team coach of Colombia, whose previous supremo, Francisco Maturana, now plies his trade in the Spanish First Division.
- English club Bournemouth is interested in signing the Romanian duo of Stefan Iovan and Adrian Bumbescu from Steaua Bucharest, but the paltry offering price of \$200,000 per player is likely to be rejected by the Bucharest club.
- Milton, the Brazilian stopper who played for Como in Italy, will be performing in the Swiss Second Division for Chiasso next month.
- Raul Aviles and Holger Quinonez, two star Bolivian internationals, have signed for European clubs. The former will join Young Boys Berne (Switzerland) and the latter will move to Portimonense, in the Portuguese Second Division.
- "Magico" Gonzalez, the wayward El Salvadoran star of Cadiz, may be moving on. Gonzalez is being sought after by the Barcelona Boxers — an American gridiron side! But even at a knock-down \$33,000, the Boxers still have their doubts, complaining that Gonzalez' only position would be that of goal kicker.
- Bayern Munich coach Uli Hoeness has denied reports that strikers Alan McInally and Radmilo Mihalovic are to be put up for sale.
- Peter Schmeichel has been voted Danish Player of the Year. Schmeichel is Denmark's national team goalkeeper.
- Top international referee, Michel Vautrot, of France, has retired from international competition. His last game was the UEFA Cup game in Belgrade between Partizan and Inter Milan (1-1).
- Red Star Belgrade have signed one of Yugoslavia's greatest young talents, 19-year-old striker Sinisa Mihajlovic, from Vojvodina. Red Star pinched him from under the very noses of their Belgrade rivals, Partizan, by paying a record Yugoslav transfer fee of \$650,000.
- Inter Milan's star German fullback Andreas Brehme has a pulled hamstring and is out of action until mid-January.
- Barcelona players have demanded a smoke-free environment at their post-match press conferences — a strange ultimatum, to say the least, since their coach, Johan Cruyff, is a chain smoker.
- Former Belgian international defender Philippe Desmet has been transferred from Kortrijk to Charleroi.
- Dutch First Division attendances reached the one-million spectator mark after Round 13. Last season, that milestone was only reached in the 16th round.
- The Dutch railways have had it with hooligan fans vandalising their trains. As of January 1, special trains for soccer fans will be discontinued.
- Italian club Parma have made a \$6 million offer for VfB Stuttgart's classy German international midfielder Guido Buchwald, but Stuttgart are holding out for \$9 million.
- Bayern Munich defender Roland Grammer has renewed his contract until June 1993.
- CSKA libero Trifon Ivanov will play in Spain next season. The 27-year-old Bulgarian has signed a preliminary contract with Betis Sevilla.

FLOG 'EM

A British Tory MP believes football hooligans should be flogged to stop them destroying public property.

Speaking at Commons question time, David Evans called on the Government to bring back corporal punishment for unruly football fans.

He dismissed as total nonsense a report which recommends safety improvements and ways to clamp down on hooligans, saying it would be better to flog the offenders.